Daily Report

Latin America

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C.A. Foreign Ministers Meet in Tegucigalpa

PA2206191788 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1720 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Report by German Reyes]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 22 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—The Central American foreign ministers today inaugurated the 6th meeting of the "Esquipulas II" Executive Commission in hopes of making progress in the processes of dialogue, democratization, and regional peace. [passage omitted]

The foreign ministers of Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala were very optimistic upon their arrival in Tegucigalpa. They are looking forward to taking firm steps and to making progress in the efforts undertaken with the signing of the "Esquipulas II" agreements on 7 August 1987 in Guatemala, which were ratified on 16 January in Costa Rica.

The marked optimism displayed by Ricardo Acevedo Peralta, Alfonso Cabrera, and Rodrigo Madrigal was not evident in Nicaraguan Foreign Minister D'Escoto's statements. Upon his arrival in Tegucigalpa, D'Escoto said that he "came to see whether it is true that this time Honduras is finally willing to set aside its policy of systematically sabotaging the negotiating process and to give peace and regional cooperation a chance."

D'Escoto added that Nicaragua feels the "Esquipulas II" agreements are important and must be maintained. He said that peace and regional cooperation must be given a chance.

"We hope to advance in that direction, and we hope that Honduras will set aside its policy of systematically sabotaging this very important regional initiative," D'Escoto said.

The Nicaraguan diplomat added that negotiations have not progressed because Honduras "continues looking for excuses to disregard the agenda that we established in El Salvador."

"We have been talking for the past 6 months and have yet to agree on a verification mechanism," D'Escoto added. [passage omitted]

According to their statements, the Central American foreign ministers know it is very important to reach agreements that will contribute to peace in the region; however, they added that such agreements cannot be reached any more rapidly. The path ahead continues to be a difficult one; there are many problems to overcome and many interests at stake, they asserted.

Meeting Ends in 'Impasse'

PA2306020388 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0102 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Jun (DPA)—The Central American foreign ministers' meeting abruptly ended this afternoon due to the impossibility of reaching conciliatory agreements between the Honduran and Nicaraguan delegations. This situation resulted in the failure of another step in the area peace process

Sources close to the meeting told DPA that Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras and Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman did not agree on the signing of two documents. This prompted the meeting to end in failure, and further stalemates the peace process.

DPA obtained copies of the two documents. One was a request to the International Court of Justice at The Hague, the Netherlands, to disregard the suit that Nicaragua filed against Honduras for allegedly violating international law. Nicaragua charged that Honduras is lending its territory to the contras. The Honduran Foreign Ministry prepared this document which D'Escoto refused to sign.

In this same document, Nicaragua was to pledge to tell its representatives at The Hague that it had withdrawn its suit. The Honduran representatives would accept this decision.

The other document that had been prepared was not discussed. It was not signed either due to the suspension of the foreign ministers' meeting. It contained the request by the five Central American foreign ministers to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to notify the governments of Canada, Spain, and the FRG of their decision to ask for the establishment of an auxiliary technical force. This force will be in charge of verifying and supervising the compliance with the peace treaties in the security zones.

DPA learned that due to Nicaragua's refusal to sign the document withdrawing its suit against Honduras, the foreign ministers realized there was an impasse and ended the meeting.

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alfonso Cabrera and the D'Escoto left Honduras. Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta were the only ones who remained in Tegucigalpa.

Cuba

Delegation to Quadripartite Talks Leaves Luanda

FL2306151088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1350 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] The Cuban delegation to the second round of quadripartite negotiations on South-West Africa today left Luanda for Cairo following a 2-day stay in Angola. The Cuban delegation, headed by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo, is also made up of Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, chief of the FAR General Staff; Carlos Aldana, secretary of the PCC Central Committee; Giraldo Mazola, vice minister of foreign relations; and other Cuban party and government leaders.

The second round will begin tomorrow in Cairo with the participation of delegations from Angola, Cuba, the United States, and South Africa.

Castro Tours, Inaugurates Matanzas Projects

FL2306032788 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] [Announcer] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today inaugurated important economic and social projects in Matanzas Province.

One of the first projects inaugurated was the overseas highway [pedraplen] located on the Tio Pancho Peninsula, south of the Icacos Peninsula. It is 1,468 meters long. A rectangular concrete island is being built at the end of road. It will be 65 meters wide and 95 meters long. Drilling equipment for three oil wells will be kept on the island. The cost of the project exceeds 1 million pesos and it is being built by workers of the Engineering Projects Construction Enterprise No 7.

During his tour, Fidel spoke extensively with engineers, geologists, and construction workers responsible for the overseas highway and the rectangular concrete island in Matanzas Province.

[Begin recording] [Castro] [applause] How are you?

[First unidentified speaker] Fine, and you?

[Castro] You are ahead of schedule, right? How many more weeks are needed to build the little island?

[First speaker] We should be able to finish the island by 10 September.

[Castro] It has taken a lot of time to finish the island. How many cubic meters are left to build?

[First speaker] We have 120,000 cubic meters left.

[Castro] On the island?

[First speaker] Yes, in total.

[Castro] Why did it become so complicated?

[First speaker] Because it has a [words indistinct]. We expected it earlier. It is 95 meters long and and 65 meters wide.

[Castro] How tall is it?

[First speaker] It is three meters long.

[Castro] That much? Then the island will be almost as long as the highway?

[First speaker] Yes, it will be almost as long as the overseas highway.

[Castro] You have eight KP-3's [expansion unknown] in the brigade?

[First speaker] Yes, we have eight.

[Castro] You don't have any [word indistinct].

[First speaker] No, we have eight KP-3's and two [word indistinct]. Since it is so rocky there, they are also throwing dirt over it.

[Castro] How many months will it be rocky there?

[First speaker] I haven't been able to see the interior zone because you have to get there by helicopter. You can't get there from land. We can spread gravel over it as long as there are no waves to get everything wet. It is possible that [words indistinct], Commander. As long as their are no waves...

[Castro, interrupting] Will you continue to get gravel from the quarry?

[First speaker] No, we have a quarry from which we are getting gravel and (?lava) rock so that when we get to the rocky zone...

[Castro, interrupting] Then your cargo ability is now better than that of trucks? You have the D-65 that we sent you and a Volvo. These two carry more than 10 vehicles.

[First speaker] Yes, yes, they can carry more. [end recording]

[Announcer] Another project toured by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro was the Oil Field Collection Center No. 1 located in Varadero. The goal of this unit is to (?assist in) the oil extraction process, eliminating environmental contamination from oil spills or by gasses escaping into the atmosphere. The center will be fully operational by the end of 1991.

[Begin recording] [Castro] Where does the oil go from here?

[Second unidentified speaker] This oil goes to a loading base at (?another site) and from there it is transferred to the main storage area.

[Castro] Do you transport it yourselves?

[Second speaker] No, it leaves here via pipeline and goes to the provisional loading base...

[Castro, interrupting] How does the provisional loading base take it to the other base?

[Second speaker] [Words indistinct]

[Castro] And then its carried in tubes?

[Second speaker] We plan to transport it by tubes. We are planning to conclude that stage by the end of 1988 or the beginning of 1989.

[Castro] It will go to those large tanks. What do you call them?

[Second speaker] The main storage area.

[Castro] Tell me, how many wells do you have here?

[Second speaker] We now have 10 wells; the maximum number will be 26 in...

[Castro, interrupting] You will have 26 oil wells. How many are you collecting from now?

[Second speaker] Right now we have an area of 110 cubic meters and 45,000 cubic meters of [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Castro Meets With Student Minibrigade

FL1706133588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with the students of the Manuelito Aguilar pre-university institute in Marianao, Havana City, who have built a house-office for the family doctor and nurse.

[Begin Castro recording] Yesterday I was trying to find Lezcano [Jorge Lezcano, first party secretary in Havana City Province]. In the afternoon, he was over at the Nico Lopez refinery and at some other places. When I finally saw him, it was 9:30 [am or pm not specified]; no, it was around 10:00, and I was told that Lezcano was at some ceremony over there and that he was inaugurating the family house-clinic built by the students. So I said, is that so? And I didn't know about it. No one told me. I got a card from you but no one told me that you were going to finish the house. I would have liked to have been there. I would have made up a reason to be there and see the first house, building completed by the students. I was remembering the inauguration of that child care center that you attended. You made a lot of noise there [laughter]; you yelled. You said that you were going to build, repair. Back then, we talked about your working in your own schools. But afterward we had an idea, and I told Lezcano that since I didn't have the opportunity to attend the inauguration of the (?school) I wanted to invite the famous minibrigade workers and the others who have been participating in all that. I also told him to invite some journalists so that they can get to know you, the first minibrigade student workers who have finished a project. [end recording]

Further on Meeting

FL1706163088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1150 GMT 17 Jun 88

[All speakers unidentified]

[Text] A group of 46 youths from the Manuelito Aguilar pre-university institute in Marianao municipality enjoyed a wonderful day which is now recorded in their hearts and memories. Their meeting with our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz was probably one of the most beautiful lessons which they have received, especially in the past 6 months.

[Begin Castro recording] I was especially interested in hearing about your experiences on the construction of this project, which is not small. What you have built looks like an apartment building; it's rather large. It looks like it's pretty well built, although I only saw it from the outside. And there was a dog there taking care of it; I don't even know the name of the dog [laughter], or where it came from. What? [audience shouts out indistinct name of dog] There it was, by itself. Who is going to take care of that dog now? Are you going to abandon that dog? There it was on the second floor, taking care of all that, [laughter] walking back and forth like a man. It may not get involved with anyone, but it looked like it was the guard for the facility. And it's going to have be taken care of. When is the facility going to be occupied? Who is going to take care of it?

[Speaker] In September, and (?by) the Ministry of Public Health.

[Castro] Not until September, so it's going to be empty at least for 2 and 1/2 months.

So what I was really interested in was hearing about your experiences, and your ideas with regard to this project you have completed. Which one of you talks the most? First the students, right? The teachers will also say something. I was told that the grades were even higher when you were working on this. There are 45 in the brigade, but the rest also helped, right? Well, tell me something.

[Speaker] The youths who went there were surprised because the place didn't look very nice. Well, we got started right away. We didn't have much training. We actually went

to the place [words indistinct]. Right there, we borrowed machetes and hoes from the neighbors. And we gradually leveled the land. We needed a lot of help.

[Castro] You didn't have a bulldozer? Did you call (?someone)

[Speaker] Yes, we did. Well, we started moving it. And nearby minibrigades, which were also working on projects around there, lent us a bulldozer. They helped us with that. But the bulk of it was done with pick and shovel.

[Castro] Who was the bricklayer, and who [words indistinct]

[Speaker] Well, Commander, we learned a lot here. We learned to plaster, to smooth out the walls, to lay bricks, to mix cement, because we didn't know how to do this. Some of us—not all, because we can't all do it—even learned to do electrical work and plumbing. We all learned many things and they are all very useful. This is good experience which we can use in future construction and thus help the country.

[Castro] Do you think that this experience is very helpful?

[Speaker] We contributed with the labor. It's one thing to walk by a project and say how well it was done, which brigade built it, how good it looks, and how well painted it is. But is is another very different thing for me to go by a project with a group of my comrades, who chatted with me and helped me, and taught me because I didn't know anything, and to say: We built that project.

[Castro] You will be able to appreciate many more projects. The extra hours you had you dedicated to work. You dedicated to creation and work the hours that you would have otherwise dedicated to relaxation and recreation. Not that we have anything against recreation, as healthy as it may be. But the human soul... [changes thought] Man has a trait that allows him to remember more the hours he unselfishly and nobly dedicates to creating something, to doing something for his people, country, than the hours he dedicates to doing something for himself. That is why, in addition to congratulating you, I want to thank you on behalf of all the comrades. I want to thank you for your motivating example, for the motivation which shows that the revolution puts seeds in fertile land and that the example of Che continues to go forth. Thank you very much. [applause]

[Speaker] I am standing before you not because [words indistinct]. I wanted to tell a story. Recently, I volunteered to be in charge of (?a) mural. I wanted to put something revelant in it, something that would stand out as you viewed the mural. So I went to a library near my house and I asked the librarian where I could find a beautiful phrase with a meaning that I would like. Then she told me: Well, look over there. There is a card file in which there are quotes by a lot of well-known people like Jose Marti and Maceo. Look there, we have very beautiful phrases. But no, I didn't go looking either for Marti or Maceo. I looked right away for Fidel, Fidel, Fidel [laughter]. I looked through many of his phrases and I found a little one which read: Work is and will be the teacher of Cuban youth. I don't know if you remember it. Imagine how happy I was to find it. I learned it by heart and I put it on the mural.

[Castro] I accept responsibility for that phrase. [laughter] [applause] [end recording]

Officials at Berlin Meeting on Nuclear Arms

FL2206150188 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Cuba today supported the creation in central Europe of a corridor free of nuclear and chemical weapons, as proposed by the GDR, CSSR, and West Germany's Social Democrats. Julian Rizo Alvarez, head of the Cuban delegation to the international conference on nuclear-free areas underway in Berlin, also voiced our country's support for the efforts of Bulgaria and Romania to create a nuclear-free region in the Balkans. Rizo noted that the USSR's peace initiatives dispel the danger of a nuclear holocaust. He said that the disarmament-development link is indissoluble. Rizo, alternate member of the PCC Politburo, pointed out that military expenditures are increasing at the same rate as the economies of underdeveloped countries are deteriorating.

Our country's voice was also heard at the committee on nuclear-free areas in Latin America, one of the nine groups meeting at the conference. Jose R. Viera, Cuba's first vice minister [of foreign relations], warned today that the Latin American countries which in good faith signed the Tlatelolco treaty have no guarantees that the United States will abstain from using its nuclear weapons against them. Viera stressed that as long as Washington, the only nuclear power on our continent, continues its policy of aggression and hostility against Cuba, our country will not be able to sign the treaty, which represents unilateral commitments.

Rizo Meets Guenther Kleiber

FL2206153088 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1411 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Julian Rizo Alvarez, alternate member of the PCC Politburo, met today in Berlin with his counterpart in the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED], Guenther Kleiber. The Cuban official and Kleiber, who is also deputy prime minister of the GDR, confirmed the good development of all aspects of the cooperation bwtween the two countries in various areas. Rizo Alvarez, who is heading the Cuban delegation to an international conference on nuclear-free areas underway in Berlin, told his host about our country's support for the GDR's initiatives to promote disarmament and trust in Europe.

Also participating in the talks, held at the SED Central Committee, was Ramiro del Rio, Cuban ambassador to the GDR.

Noriega Denial of Commandos in Panama Cited

FL2306131088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] The third assembly of the anti-imperialist organizations of Central America and the Caribbean has concluded in Panama with an appeal for solidarity with Panama in the face of U.S. aggression. Cheddi Jagan, leader of Guyana's National [as heard] Progressive Party, was elected new chairman of the coordinating committee for the group, which emerged in Havana in 1984.

Closing the meeting, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panama Defense Forces, denied that there were so-called Cuban or Libyan commandos in Panama, as reported by the U.S. media. We have more details from journalist Nelson Notario Castro in Panama:

[Begin Notario Castro recording] Gen Noriega said the U.S. doctrine of aggression remains the same; only its methods have changed. While Gen Noriega was delivering his speech here in Panama City, press reports from the United States said that the Pentagon will send an additional 250 soldiers to this country. According to the source of the information, these soldiers will work in administrative matters and communications as part of the contingent of more than 10,000 Yankee troops stationed in U.S. bases in the Canal Zone.

In his speech, Gen Noriega recalled that the imperialists' aggressive doctrine remains the same; only the methods have changed. The Panamanian leader noted that Bolivar's call 162 years ago for a congress on Panamanian territory was sabotaged by the United States, and that the Bolivarian dream that the canal be built by all the American nations in a joint effort for the use of all our peoples was violated by the United States. What is happening in Panama is what will happen anywhere else in the world. Panama's case is typical of a phenomenon that could occur in any other American nation.

Gen Noriega confirmed that with these defense forces, there won't be a return to the past. [end recording]

Internationalists Meet With Journalists

FL2206012688 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Report by Alexis Sotolongo]

[Text] Fernando Vecino Alegret, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of higher education, and Brigade General Guillermo Rodriguez del Pozo presided over a meeting this afternoon between Cuban internationalist combatants and national and foreign journalists.

Personal views and experiences accumulated during the fulfillment of honorable internationalist missions were discussed during this meeting, in which a group of internationalist officials participated on behalf of the more than 30,000 Cubans who have carried out military missions abroad.

Vecino Alegret had the big responsibility of handling political work as vice minister to the Cuban military mission in Angola in 1975. At the meeting he referred to the internationalists' positive attitude during the months of violent fighting for the liberation of Angolan territory.

Another moving moment was when a young official, Benito Pena, discussed his participation in the fighting in Cuito Cuanavale, and the injuries he incurred as a result.

View Treatment of Prisoners

FL2206031188 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] A meeting was held today between Cuban internationalist combatants and national and foreign journalists. Present at the event were Brigade General Guillermo Rodriguez del Pozo and Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret, who fulfilled a mission in the People's Republic of Angola. South African journalist (Peter Jacobos Uchombi) was invited to the meeting.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] We also know—we were with the comrade—when the first South African prisoners were captured on 13 December (?1975). I have here the list of seven we knew about. Three more were captured later. We had the opportunity to talk extensively with that first group on the night of 13 December and they physically described to us a group of six or eight Cuban prisoners captured on 12 December in fighting in (Rio Negra). These youths were not found alive. We want to mention this because there is a significant difference in the way South African prisoners are treated by Cuban internationalist combatants in Angola, which—as the comrade said—is a tradition our people have in fighting.

[Second unidentified speaker] We met a group of comrades in Ethiopia on 22 January 1978, after an attack by Somali troops against the people of (Harare). Lieutenant (Villa Vicencio) was taken prisoner by the enemy. He was on a combative exploration expedition when he was ambushed by the enemy. (Villa Vicencio) has not had the same good fortune experienced by South African prisoner Johan Papenfus. It has not been possible for (Villa Vicencio's) family to visit him and he is living under adverse conditions as a prisoner of the enemy.

[Third unidentified speaker] We counterattacked and repulsed the South African attack with a small group of Cuban tanks. Our comrades fought bravely alongside the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of

Angola] and rejected this South African attack and forced them to retreat. In our case, those of us who were Cuban officials fought alongside the Angolans in the trenches.

The generation of young Cubans that will now fulfill internationalist missions in Angola, Ethiopia, or wherever necessary, are doing so voluntarily. That is fundamental. It is a great honor for young Cubans to fulfill a Cuban internationalist mission. [end recording]

More Flooding Prompts Measures in Ciego

FL2206185288 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Ciego de Avila Province has again been affected by the intensive rains. Here's Efrain Cervantes with more details:

[Begin recording] [Cervantes] Sunday's heavy rains have caused more flooding. The Moron-Jucaro railroad line was again cut off at the Ciro Redondo-Ceballos and Ciego de Avila-Jucaro stretches. Seven rain meters registered over 50 mm this Sunday; in some cases, the figure went as high as 100. These levels are dangerous because the watertable can no longer absorb so much water. Emergency measures were taken in Ciro Redondo to save lives and economic objectives in view of unprecedented flooding in Manguitos because of water currents coming from the northwest.

[Unidentified speaker] They indeed come from there. It has not rained so heavily in Ciro Redondo as to isolate it and cause flooding.

[Cervantes] This is not usual.

[Speaker] It isn't. Naturally, traffic on the Ceballos road between Ciro Redondo and Ciego de Avila has been interrupted.

[Cervantes] There's also the danger that it might affect the railroad at any time.

[Speaker] That's an imminent danger. As you can observe, the railroad serves as a sort of curtain for the water. The last time this happened, the same danger existed. This endangered the lower areas [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Bahamas

Police Confiscate 1,461 Pounds of Cocaine

FL1706160888 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...in the Bahamas occurred yesterday on the Island of Andros. Police confiscated 1,461 and 1/2 pounds of cocaine with a street value of more than $14 million.

According to reports, police spotted a twin-engine aircraft surrounded by men in the Twin Lake area of North Andros. When they approached the area, the men fled the scene. On boarding the aircraft, the police found the drugs and the loaded rifles.

A massive search is underway for the men.

Dominican Republic

Manigat Discloses Namphy's Main 'Phobias'

PA2306013588 Paris AFP in Spanish 0005 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Santo Domingo, 22 Jun (AFP)—Among the main "phobias" of General Henri Namphy, the chief of the new Haitian military government, are the Catholic Church, the Constitution, and North Americans. This was stated today in Santo Domingo by former President Leslie Manigat, who was overthrown by Namphy in a coup d'etat on Monday.

The overthrown president, who obtained diplomatic asylum from the Dominican Government on Monday, was interviewed today on the "Limelight" program aired by Santo Domingo's Channel 2.

Manigat recounted that since he took office on 7 February, he tried to establish a "cordial and frank" relationship with Namphy, who was commander in chief of the Armed Forces, a post he held after having been president of the National Government Council.

Nevertheless, Manigat said, his conversations were never able to bridge the "political distance" separating them and always left "doubts" in his mind.

In those talks, Manigat sensed three characteristics that stood out, like real phobias of the current de facto Haitian president.

The first, and the most disconcerting, was his intolerance, his almost irrational rejection, of the Catholic Church, particularly as regards the sector of the church that, during the provisional regime that succeeded President for Life Jean-Claude Duvalier, peremptorily demanded that the promises made by Namphy and his government be kept.

Another characteristic mentioned by Manigat, which is perhaps more understandable, was Namphy's constant and obstinate rejection of the Constitution, although it was the provisional regime led by Namphy that, in 1986, convened a constituent assembly to approve the country's new Constitution.

Manigat said in a news conference yesterday that on several occasions Namphy expressed "before witnesses" this instinctive rejection of constitutional provisions.

A third phobia that former President Manigat also found disconcerting was Namphy's "deep anger against North Americans," to the point that he practically did not want to hear anyone speaking about them.

Manigat's description of Namphy shows an unstable personality that is "dangerously" accompanied by his "inability to accept his removal from power to a subordinate role."

The overthrown president insisted that the unity shown by the Haitian Armed Forces after Monday's coup is "artificial" and that within them there is "a real oppressed force" that wishes to rescue such basic military values as subordination, discipline, honor, and loyalty.

New Ambassador to Haiti Awaiting Orders

FL2106223788 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1613 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] The military coup against President Leslie Manigat in Haiti will momentarily halt the installation of the new Dominican ambassador to Haiti. Mr (Jose del Carmen Acosta) was supposed to take up his post this weekend, but the coup led by Army Chief Henri Namphy is temporarily putting a damper on that. The outgoing ambassador, General Oscar Pavilla Medrano, retired, was to have organized his farewell in coordination with the Haitian Foreign Ministry. Pavilla Medrano was slated to have a farewell ceremony with the participation of the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to Haiti.

It is not yet known if after the installation of a new government by force, the Dominican Government will still keep (Jose del Carmen Acosta) as its ambassador to Haiti. According to information obtained by Radio Mil "Informando," (Del Carmen Acosta) is waiting for the Foreign Secretariat to decide what to do about the situation that has arisen in Haiti.

(Jose del Carmen Acosta) is a Reformist leader who has long been a fellow party member of Dr Joaquin Balaguer. Although he has spent most of his life living in Barahona, (Del Carmen Acosta) has held several posts in the public administration, especially the Corde [Dominican Corporation of State Enterprises].

Grenada

National Drug Avoidance Committee Launched

FL2106011588 Bridgetown CANA in English 2110 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 19, CANA—Grenada's education and social security minister, George McGuire, has officially launched a National Drug Avoidance Committee.

According to an official statement, McGuire gave the committee a two year mandate for the implementation of government's policy on drug abuse.

The statement said that the 24-point policy outline given to the committee calls for "an attack strategy based on research into the causes and effects of drug abuse."

It quoted McGuire as saying that high priority would be placed on the completion of the Richmond Hill rehabilitation centre for juvenile offenders.

Construction of the centre, which was originally due to be opened in January, has been halted, with the government looking for 60,000 dollars (one East Caribbean dollar-37 US cents) to complete it.

Haiti

De Ronceray Notes MDN's Position After Coup

FL2206215088 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Three days after the military coup that overthrew Leslie Francois Manigat, political leaders are beginning to make themselves heard.

MDN [Mobilization for Development] leader Hubert de Ronceray says he was expecting what happened and that the MDN had in fact, on 13 June, invited the Army to intervene. However, says De Ronceray, he is concerned because the military has not said exactly how long it will remain in power. But he is waiting.

[Begin recording] [De Ronceray] [Passage omitted] Since 17 January 1988, the democratic process in the country has been systematically violated. A few military men put Leslie Manigat in power, thus thwarting the national will. [passage omitted]

Everyone hoped, was expecting, wanted, that government, which did not represent the popular will, to go away.

[Unidentified speaker] Does this mean that you hoped things would happen the way they did, through the use of force? And did you want the military to take power?

[De Ronceray] Well, we of the MDN felt that since the Haitian people had been determined to vote freely but had been thwarted and prevented from doing so, and since they had put someone in power, we of the MDN felt that it was up to those who put this man in power to remove him, since the Haitian people are impotent. They have no means to defend themselves. That is why we of the MDN openly took a position against the regime.

We held our general assembly, which ratified a decision made 4 days after 7 February 1988. The MDN members collaborated [as heard] with the regime. And on 13 June, we even said outright [corrects himself] we invited the Haitian Armed Forces to intervene. So we find this a normal process. And we think it is very valid for those who put him in power to remove him from power. [passage omitted]

[Speaker] Mr de Ronceray, that means you are ready to participate in a future election. But does this also mean that you would also be willing to accept the presidency the same way Manigat accepted it, if it were to be offered to you?

[De Ronceray] Listen, if we wanted to take power in the same way as Manigat did, we would already be in power. We are not struggling for personal power because of personal ambition, or just so our name will go down in history. We are struggling in favor of the development of the country. [passage omitted]

[Speaker] If the military says it is going to rebuild the country and if they hold onto power for an indefinite period, what will the MDN's reaction be? Will the MDN continue to function as a political party, and is it going to struggle for a change, for an opening, for a so-called democracy?

[De Ronceray] The MDN has a charter, a declaration of principles. The MDN has very precise objectives. It is a question of building a political party that facilitates the democratic process, that permits the people to learn to be democratic. So it is clear to the MDN. We have no choice but to work for the promotion of democracy in Haiti. [end recording]

Flour Mill Workers Take Hostage, Threaten Strike

FL2206163888 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] The former director general of the Tax Office, Mr Raymond Fourreau, who was fired last week and replaced by Mr Wilner Dessources, returned to his job yesterday.

Mr Dessources was installed just last Friday, 17 June.

Also, the workers of the Minoterie d'Haiti [national flour mill] have threatened to shut down the mill if the authorities fire the administrators currently in place. According to what some of the workers told us, it seems the new Finance Ministry officials want to reinstate the staff headed by Mr James Cartwright.

A workers representative informed us yesterday that the Army had stopped by the mill.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker, in progress] ...what is going on. It looks as if they have returned with the entire former staff that was fired— James Cartwright, Pluviose, Pierrot Phelps. The whole team is back to head the Minoterie. We workers do not accept this. We do not want this, because the reason those guys were fired was for stealing and being crooked in other ways.

[Interviewer] When did they try to reinstate these men? Just this morning [21 June]?

[Speaker] Exactly. Just now, at around noon. At 1200 or 1215.

[Interviewer] Have they installed them?

[Speaker] We are now going to stop work because we can't take this. We will have to stop the mill. [Words indistinct] military on the grounds. I think the minister of finance himself—I don't know what his name is—came up here to install them.

We have taken one of the former directors hostage. We are not allowing him to leave the grounds. We are keeping him. [end recording]

Mill Union Members Fired

FL2206212588 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1830 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The employees of the Minoterie d'Haiti flour mill have since yesterday been protesting the reinstatement of the Minoterie's former director, Mr James Cartwright. A truckload of soldiers were on guard duty this morning at the Minoterie but this did not prevent the workers from standing their ground.

As the work day began, many members of the Minoterie's union were handed letters of dismissal and it seems that more dismissals will be forthcoming. The flour mill has more than 300 workers in the union, which is affiliated with the CATH [Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers].

A press conference was held at CATH headquarters this morning to inform the public of the firings.

We have also received a note from the Minoterie d'Haiti that says they want to hire electricians and rewinders [rebobine]. [passage omitted]

Radio Workers Reject Appointment of Director

FL2206213988 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1830 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Regarding administrative changes made 2 days after the coup d'etat, Mr James Cartwright has, like we just said, been reinstated at the head of the Minoterie d'Haiti. Mr (Raymond Fourreau) has been reinstated as director general of the tax office and (Ernst Athis) is now the director general of information.

esterday morning, RTNH [Radio Tele-Diffusion National d'Haiti, the national television and radio stations] director Jean Camille tried to install (Joseph Damas) as the head of RTNH-radio, replacing Dr Yves Jean-Bart.

The employees would not accept this appointment. RTNH officials had to back off in the face of the employees' resistance but they promised they would be back today.

TU Reports Attack by Anti-Manigat Group

FL2206162088 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] In Petit Goave the day before yesterday, a house and the clarin-producing facility [clarin is a local alcoholic beverage made out of sugarcane] were sacked. Then there were demonstrations, but in favor of the military. [passage omitted]

A group affiliated with the CATH/CLAT [Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers/Latin American Central Organization of Workers], the ATH/CLAT [expansion unknown] of Petit Goave, has reported that they were attacked at 2100 yesterday. The group that attacked said it was uprooting Manigat people.

We remind listeners that the new minister of information pointed out in a statement that there would be no reprisals against members of the former regime. We will return to our correspondent in Petit Goave:

[(Maxa Metellus)] [Passage omitted] The ATH/CLAT members told us that at approximately 2100, a group of men armed with clubs and pointed instruments showed up at the ATH/CLAT office, where there are several sewing machines [words indistinct]. They were looking for the association's director. Listen to them at our microphone:

[Begin recording] My name is Lucien Chabique. I am a member of the union association [words indistinct]. This union is comprised of a group of tailors who got together and formed the association. The association has nothing to do with politics. This group of thugs out in the streets uprooting people say they are uprooting Manigat people. But we don't have anything to do with Manigat.

They say they are looking for a certain (Dieuseul Benjamin), who is the director of the post office. He is the director of our association. They say he is one of Manigat's people. He is the director general of the post office, but that is his job. And it is not Manigat who gave him that job!

I think these people are after something to steal. Because if they needed (Dieuseul), I think they would content themselves with talking to (Dieuseul); they wouldn't have to destroy the building.

They threw many rocks at the building's door. They (?tried to open) the door to the building so they could trash (?it). They tore down the sign and went off with it. They even promised to come back and burn down the building. [end recording]

This is Maxa Metellus, Radio Soleil, Petit Goave.

Jamaica

Government, PNP Criticize Coup in Haiti

FL2206171588 Bridgetown CANA in English 1456 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 22, CANA—Jamaica has condemned the military coup in Haiti and said it would not conduct normal relations with the regime of General Henri Namphy until steps begin to restore an elected government.

The statement issued by Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer said that Jamaica deplored in the strongest possible manner the coup against President Leslie Manigat which had reversed the democratic process.

In the circumstances, we cannot support the present regime and will not conduct normal relations with it until all the necessary steps are taken to restart the process leading to the restoration of the constitutionally-elected government, the government said. We earnestly hope that this will be done early.

It did not spell out precisely what steps would be taken against Haiti, but analysts said Prime Minister Edward Seaga was likely to drop plans to push Haiti's case in the international arena and seek aid for the hemisphere's poorest country.

Jamaica was one of the few countries that announced strong support for Manigat—at the time widely seen as the army's choice for the job—following his victory in last January's election that Kingston conceded was flawed.

The January military-run poll came after last November's derailment of Haiti's first attempt at democratic elections after three decades of Duvalier rule.

The opposition People's National Party (PNP), said that the coup was a consequence of the rape of the democratic process last November.

PNP Foreign Affairs Spokesman David Coore said Manigat's eventual overthrow and the present military domination was the effect of the accommodation showed originally with the view that a bad election was better than none.

The naked truth is that there was never any democratic process established, and once again Haiti is under a military government, Coore said.

While stressing that it was the Haitian people who had to eventually solve their problems, he called for international action against the regime.

The PNP calls on international and, in particular, regional authorities to isolate an undemocratic regime that is in place and oppose any attempt at farcical elections.

At the same time we pledge to support any genuine attempt to establish genuine democracy in a manner free from interference and partisan political ambitions, the statement added.

St Christopher and Nevis

Third Radio Station Begins Operation

FL2106011088 Bridgetown CANA in English 2006 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Charlestown, Nevis, June 20, CANA—The third radio station in St Kitts and Nevis has its third radio station began operating at the weekend. [sentence as received]

The Voice of Nevis (VON) has an output of 10,000 watts and operates on a frequency of 895 kilohertz in the medium wave band.

It is owned and managed by the newly formed Nevis Broadcasting Company Limited, which is backed mainly of Nevisians living overseas.

According to an informed source, the Nevis island administration owns 20 percent of the share capital.

The two other radio stations operating here are state owned ZIZ, which has a studio in Charlestown, and the religious Radio Paradise which is owned by a group of American evangelists and re-located to St Kitts from St Martin in the 1970's.

Trinidad and Tobago

CPTU Urges Halt of Privatization Plans

FL2106010688 Bridgetown CANA in English 1739 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text]Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 20, CANA—The Council of Progressive Trade Unions (CPTU) marked the labour day holiday on Monday with a call on the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) administration to halt its plans for privatisation.

The CPTU, the more militant of the two trade union groupings here, listed 18 demands in the Fyzabad [Declaration] at the end of celebrations on Sunday, the actual labour day.

The CPTU rally heard attacks on the NAR government from President of the Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU) Errol McLeod.

In our view, the NAR is finished politically...the majority of the population are disenchanted with their infantile squabbling and their failure to tackle the nation's economic and social crisis, McLeod said.

The party is in effect split. It is only a matter of time before that split is formalised.

McLeod said that Trinidad and Tobago was slipping back into the dark days of foreign economic and local big business control.

The labour leader was preceded on the platform by suspended NAR Deputy Leader Basdeo Panday, who heads a faction in the divided ruling party.

Ignoring boos and heckling from a few people in the crowd, Panday questioned why other trade unions had not backed him up over criticisms directed at a local conglomerate which he has accused of taking over the NAR administration.

Today is a time when the workers are facing retrenchment, they are facing a lack of backpay. They are facing all kinds of terrible working conditions..., Panday said.

He said this was caused by the failure of the working class to recognise the link between political and economic struggle.

The Fyzabad Declaration also called for what it called a massive assault on the drug trade and on corruption, an urgent tackling of the country's education and health care systems, and democratisation of the media.

On the subject of trade union unity, Panday suggested the union groupings come together over what it could agree on instead of arguing over ideological points as they have over the past week.

The rival but moderate Trinidad and Tobago Labour Congress (TTLC) staged a smaller rally in Port-of-Spain.

The main speaker, International Labour Organization (ILO) Caribbean Regional Advisor George de Peana, advised the country's trade union movement to stress the need for increased productivity to its members to make the country more competitive abroad and create employment opportunities.

In particular, trade unions must be ever vigilant to ensure that the army of labour exploiters at present roaming the developing countries posing as entrepreneurs, does not invade Trinidad and Tobago in the hope of taking advantage of the unemployed, De Peana told the congress organised seminar.

De Peana said that the trade union movement must join with the authorities to attract genuine foreign investors who recognise ILO labour conventions.

CPTU on Attempt To Sabotage Trade Union Unity

FL1706153288 Bridgetown CANA in English 1422 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 17, CANA—The militant Council of Progressive Trade Unions (CPTU) has accused "a small clique" within the conservative

Trinidad and Tobago Labour Congress (TTLC) of attempting to sabotage moves towards unity within the country's trade union movement.

The CPTU's charge in a letter to absent TTLC President Vernon Glean and in a press statement, came after acting TTLC President Selwyn John accused the CPTU of being controlled by communists, fuelling an impasse between the two rival trade union groupings. John had also said on Tuesday that the TTLC could not have unity with the CPTU because of these ties.

The comments came days before labour day celebrations here scheduled for Sunday, and as the TTLC was being waited upon to ratify a draft constitution, which was one of the final steps towards dissolving the two umbrella groupings and forming a one new organization with a joint trade union centre.

In the letter to Glean, acting CPTU President Lyle Townsend said he wanted to know as soon as possible if John's comments were indicative of a new mood in the TTLC which he said the TTLC could have informed the CPTU of out of basic courtesy. Such a decision not to merge with CPTU, Townsend said, would dash the hopes of all workers in Trinidad and Tobago.

In the statement issued at the same time, Townsend said that if some backward TTLC leaders insisted on being what he called anti-working class and anti-trade union unity, the CPTU would used other tactics to achieve such unity.

While John and TTLC General Secretary Carl Tull spoke out against the CPTU in the absence of Glean who is out of the country, other unions under the TTLC umbrella have stated their intention to seek unity with the CPTU.

Seizing on this apparent split, Townsend said: The CPTU and a few individual units of congress have been pursuing unity, the members of all trade unions want unity and one trade union centre, it is only a small clique of rogue trade unionists that have been denying the legitmate wish of the workers.

I can only view those statements as being mischievous and calculated to embarass the CPTU and you, as president of the labour congress, Townsend told Glean in his letter. Further, they are designed to cause further disunity and keep the two federations apart and continue to deny the workers and trade unions of this country, the formation of one trade union centre, Townsend said.

Labour day is to be marked on Sunday with CPTU unions celebrations in Fyzabad, South Trinidad.

Congress-affiliated unions will hold their activities in Port-of-Spain.

Soviet Envoy on Gorbachev Visit, Relations
PA2206123388 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 20 Jun 88 p 13

[Interview with Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rostislav Sergeyev by EL DIA editorial council chairman Alberto Beltran—date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Beltran] It has been said that Mr Gorbachev could not visit Latin America, including Mexico, without first having resolved the disarmament matter. Now that this has happened, when do you think he could be making that trip?

[Sergeyev] I saw Gorbachev in May 1986. He said in front of several ambassadors that he was very interested in visiting Latin America. He knows about the profound changes that have taken place on this continent. He knows about the international political initiatives of Mexico and other Latin American countries and about the work carried out by the Contadora and Support Groups to secure peace in Central America. This is why he wants to make the trip.

I believe this trip will take place in the near future, but there is no specific date for it yet. I personally know he is interested in making the trip. He also told this to Mexican Foreign Secretary Sepulveda when they spoke in Moscow in May 1987.

We are going to continue talks regarding this through diplomatic channels, and I hope these do not last too long.

[Beltran] How do you view Mexican-Soviet relations at this point, Mr Ambassador?

[Sergeyev] We are pleased with the state of political and cultural relations. Proof of this is the recent exposition of contemporary Soviet paintings in the Modern Arts Museum, the tour by the Moscow Symphony Orchestra through Mexico, last year's exposition by Mexican painter Chavez Vega in my country, and the visit to be made by Amalia Hernandez' Folkloric Ballet.

Cultural relations have been intensive since the Mexican and Soviet revolutions. Diego and Siqueiros visited the Soviet Union. We have edited millions of copies of the works of Rulfo, Fuentes, and other Mexican writers.

I do not have to say that we have many points of agreement on the disarmament issue. I have already given you my opinion on President de la Madrid's speech at the United Nations.

We could recall the Soviet Union's support for the Contadora and Support Groups and for the economic rights charter that Mexico presented at the United Nations in the 1970's.

We must further develop our economic relations. We are concerned with this aspect because, ultimately, it is the economy that rules over international and bilateral relations. A broad economic and commercial cooperation program is necessary. We have some projects we can develop in the future. There is a solid base for promoting specific industrial contracts.

We are in the final phase in the preparation of this type of program. With it, we will be entering a more intense period in the economic and commercial aspects, and we will stop being concerned with the problems we have had until now. We understand that it is necessary to intensify our relations with the private sector. Symmetry is necessary in the development of economic relations.

Morelos Support Center Planned for Tijuana
PA2206133888 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 20 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] Mexicali, 19 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The Communications and Transport Secretariat will install in the city of Tijuana a support center for the Morelos satellite system, Rafael Sarmiento Alvarez, the communications and transport secretary in this state, has reported. He said that the center is scheduled to begin its operations in April 1989, precisely when the Morelos Satellite II will be placed in its final geostationary orbit. He also said that Baja California has a leading role in communications.

Costa Rica

Panama Relations 'Slowly Returning to Normal'

PA2206214188 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] San Jose, 22 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—With the return to Panama of Costa Rican Ambassador Miguel Yamuni and the forthcoming presentation of credentials by the Panamanian representative to President Oscar Arias, bilateral relations are slowly returning to normal, according to official sources.

The Costa Rican Government had recalled its ambassador in Panama for consultations after the overthrow of President Eric Arturo Delvalle at the end of February, when Delvalle tried to oust Defense Forces Chief General Manuel Antonio Noriega from his post.

David Pere, the Panamanian ambassador to Costa Rica, had been fired at the end of 1987 for saying that there were movements of men and arms in Costa Rica to attack his country. President Delvalle replaced Pere on 10 February with Dario Arosemena Gonzalez.

David Pere was recently named Panamanian ambassador to Nicaragua.

Today official sources said that Arosemena Gonzalez will soon present his credentials to President Arias.

Carlos Rivera, Costa Rican deputy foreign minister, said it was considered appropriate to recall the diplomat to brief the government on the situation, but he added that the opinion of his government "has not changed in any way" regarding the Panamanian situation.

After Delvalle's overthrow, the Costa Rican Government recalled its ambassador for consultation and insisted that a solution to the Panamanian crisis had to take into consideration that civilian power must prevail over military power.

Afterward, it made some proposals for dialogue through the mediation of Latin American political leaders, proposals that were not disregarded by Manuel Solis Palma, present executive branch chief, and by sectors of the Panamanian opposition.

In the last 10 days, Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency of Panama, has received the credentials of Ambassador of Colombia Major Jaime Hernandez Lopez and FRG Ambassador Gotz Von Boehmer.

Briefs

Debt With Mexico Restructured

Costa Rica will repay its $149 million debt to Mexico in 14 years. The debt was restructured based on an agreement that Costa Rican Finance Minister Fernando Naranjo and Gustavo Petricioli, Mexican finance and public credit secretary, signed in Mexico this afternoon. The terms of payment include a 4-year grace period. Costa Rica will begin by paying 5 percent of the total amount it owes and will end up paying 16 percent. [Excerpt] [*PA2106140288 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jun 88*]

El Salvador

PDC Nominates Chavez Mena for President

PA2306000988 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2112 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 22 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—With opposition from a faction of the ruling Christian Democratic Party (PDC), today that party's special national convention nominated Fidel Chavez Mena as its presidential candidate for the March 1989 elections.

The faction led by Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, the other presidential candidate contender, did not go to the PDC headquarters, where 181 of the 214 members of the national convention elected Chavez Mena amid great enthusiasm.

Rey Prendes had been nominated as the presidential candidate at another national convention held at the end of April.

However, that convention was not recognized by the party's legal authorities, who after reorganizing the rank and file organizations held new congresses—14 in all—which chose Chavez Mena as the only precandidate.

After opening the convention today, the highest PDC authorities, with representatives from all the party's national organizations, ratified Chavez Mena's candidacy and approved a new method to hold local conventions and avoid a new election process.

Rodolfo Castillo Claramount, acting Salvadoran president and PDC secretary general, presided over the convention, stating that the negotiations with Rey Prendes to prevent a division in the party "have their limit."

Castillo Claramount said this limit ended today with the election of the presidential candidate and "a decision must definitely be made and they (referring to Rey Prendes' faction) are the ones who must make it."

"I hope they will decide to join this effort," Castillo Claramount told the press, adding that in the PDC "there is political respect and openness for all leaders."

Castillo Claramount also expressed "confidence" that Rey Prendes will not file a legal appeal at the Supreme Court against the PDC decisions. [passage omitted]

Rey Prendes, former communications and culture minister, described today's convention as a "farce and illegal, held by Chavez Mena's friends." He also

announced that he will turn to the Supreme Court to make sure that his "rights, trampled by the illegalities of today's convention," will prevail.

Meanwhile, Chavez Mena, former foreign minister and planning minister, who has U.S. support, said he was nominated through a democratic process stemming from the party's rank and file. [passage omitted]

FMLN-FDR Communique on Dialogue Proposals

PA2306015388 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0111 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Communique issued by the FMLN-FDR Political-Diplomatic Commission in El Salvador on 22 June]

[Text] 1. On Monday, 20 June, Comrades Ana Guadalupe and Mario Lopez met with Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto.

2. At that meeting, our comrades explained to Madrigal Nieto about the four existing dialogue proposals in El Salvador:

a. The dialogue proposed by the executive branch, supported by most political parties and members of the Army High Command.

b. The dialogue proposed by ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance]. That document proposes that the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly appoint a special commission to work in the drafting of a peace proposal to be presented to the FMLN-FDR.

c. The dialogue presented by the country's social forces, which is promoted by the Salvadoran Catholic Church.

d. Our proposal to resume the dialogue, which was addressed to the president, the Legislative Assembly, and the Armed Forces.

3. With this information in hand, the Costa Rican foreign minister set forth the possibility of putting together a plan to promote the dialogue in El Salvador with the support of the Esquipulas II executive committee formed by the five Central American foreign ministers and with the participation of two other personalities, who would contribute to reinstating the dialogue.

4. We state that we view the possibility of the participation of two personalities to work for the resumption of the dialogue without excluding Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas as positive. Those personalities would have to be previously accepted by the two sides.

5. We reiterate our willingness to establish a serious dialogue to reach a negotiated solution to the conflict.

[Signed] FMLN-FDR Political-Diplomatic Commission

El Salvador, 22 June 1988

Ungo on U.S. Policy, Armed Forces, ARENA

FL2206142488 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0040 GMT 20 Jun 88

[By correspondent Ana Maria de Paulis]

[Text] Panama City, 19 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Guillermo Ungo, president of El Salvador's FDR, has told NOTIMEX that there is a growing crisis in Central America, especially in his country. He identified the failure of U.S. policy in the region as a major factor in this situation. El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Panama are demonstrating the failure of the Reagan administration's policy in the region. The Americans don't know what to do and there's an emerging awareness in the United States that the case of El Salvador is the most difficult one.

Interviewed by NOTIMEX in the Panamanian capital, the president of the FMLN's political arm examined various aspects of his country's situation, dismissing the possibility of a coup d'etat, which has been mentioned in political circles. Paradoxically, Ungo stated, the most stable factor is the Armed Forces, because the Christian Democrats are divided and have no chances of governing, [words indistinct] facing the extreme right. These same Armed Forces, meanwhile, are confronting a coming change in leadership. They will sooner respond to mechanisms of negotiation rather than to a coup d'etat, Ungo asserted. The mechanisms of negotiation within the Salvadoran Armed Forces are delaying changes at the top, but these will take place in any case before the elections. Ungo pointed out that it will not be a president who will impose a defense minister on the military.

What is being questioned, he went on, is how to carry out the counterinsurgency war, which the military is not losing but is not winning, either. The more radical Army sectors are proposing a total war instead of a low intensity war, but it is a concept, however, that they have no clear notion of. In addition, the military will have to reduce their resources, in accordance with the trend already manifest in the present U.S. Administration and which will very likely be followed by the next administration. In fact, there are some who feel that a budget cut would be a good thing because the Army is reportedly too fat and a budget trim would make it more flexible.

Ungo made reference to an interesting study conducted by the U.S. military admitting its failure in El Salvador. Those officers, however, propose no solutions or alternatives, considering Central America is a laboratory to test and verify errors in their theories.

The crisis in the way the war is being carried out coincides with a political crisis, Ungo said, and [words indistinct] defects of its counterinsurgency plan considers that it is the political component that is failing the most. That is, he explained, the political plan to win minds and [words indistinct] is a failed model; a new counterinsurgency model is emerging with better prospects and efficiency. In this sense, the United States is

betting on the Christian Democrats, hoping for a democratic convergence and planning to make use of a third, domesticated force to save the country from the greater evil. This force would consist of the ultrarightist Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA].

He added: The Americans are going to bed with ARENA. At this time, ARENA represents the interests of the right following the electoral defeat of the rest of the right-wing parties, and it is receiving support from the business sectors. Those in the military who favor the Army's total war respond to this political sector. It is apparently stable, but the Americans do not realize that it is also a cancer, (?Ungo stressed).

Though there are attempts to create an image of dialogue to build up a counterinsurgency consensus, what's bred in the bone comes out in the flesh, Ungo said, adding, ARENA is going back to its old methods: its threats of violence, and its appeals to insurrection and coups. In fact, he went on, this righ-wing alliance condemns the political assassinations carried out by the right itself so it can press for increased repression, for the application of a heavy hand.

The United States is putting its eggs in several baskets and is preventing the supremacy of any one party in order to deal with a nonexistent plan, Ungo concluded. It realizes that there is no solution; in other words, it is discovering the cancer, and all indications in El Salvador are that the crisis is developing.

Army Reports on Rebel Clashes, Kidnappings

2 Frenchmen Kidnapped

PA2106124788 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 20 Jun 88 pp 3, 65

[Text] The Salvadoran Army inflicted 23 casualties on the FMLN-FDR during recent clashes, while the guerrillas murdered nine peasants and kidnapped six civilians, including two French citizens.

The Armed Forces General Staff reported that 7 members of the FMLN were killed and 16 wounded in various battles that took place in several parts of the country from 10 to 17 June.

The military seized various weapons, cartridges, explosives, grenades, and mines. The Army reported it lost 6 men and 23 wounded.

In the same period of time, the terrorists murdered nine peasants who refused to collaborate with them and kidnapped six civilians, including French citizens Walter Moran Moscoso and Miguel Grute, who worked for a private enterprise. The guerrillas also set fire to machinery belonging to the same private enterprise in Mercedes Umana.

Meanwhile, two children were killed and four were wounded by mines planted by terrorists.

During the last 24 hours, the guerrillas knocked down four power towers and two electricity poles in Tres Puertas Canton, Rosario, La Paz Department.

Two other electricity poles were sabotaged on Friday, 17 June, in Suchitoto and Quezaltepeque, in Cuscatlan and La Libertad Departments.

It has also been reported that there have been dynamite explosions at electricity poles in several sectors of the Escalon residential area in San Salvador.

Army Kills 5 Rebels

PA2206145988 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0032 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Today the Army reported that it killed five guerrillas and wounded one in skirmishes that took place over the last few hours in Usulutan and Morazan Departments.

The Defense Ministry reported that four guerrillas died in a shootout near Jiquilisco, in the eastern Usulutan Department.

After the shootout, the Army seized four rifles, six booby traps, a radio, and materials to manufacture explosive devices.

The Army also reported that one rebel was killed and one was wounded in a confrontation in Chapeltique, in the strife-torn Morazan Department.

The Army report added that two Civil Defense members were wounded in Santa Elena, Usulutan Department, while repelling an FMLN attack.

Guatemala

Cabrera on 11 May; Rumors of Coup Attempts

PA2206163888 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Interview with Foreign Minister Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo by unidentified reporters at Toncontin Airport in Tegucigalpa—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Reporter] Foreign Minister, we have heard rumors of a coup d'etat. Would you comment on this?

[Cabrera] As you know, there was an attempted coup d'etat on 11 May. However, the Guatemalan Army played a very important role. The Guatemalan people are also aware of the situation and are willing to defend democracy. I think that what happened in Guatemala is something that has happened in other countries, in Latin America in general, where processes are under way to build democracy. We could not escape the selfish actions of a small group of radicals who do not believe in democracy and who feel that violence is the way to reach

power. The two extremes [not further identified] agree on this. However, the Guatemalan Army, people, and government institutions have consolidated the [democratic] process.

[Reporter] A few hours ago, we heard that there is still a danger of a coup d'etat.

[Cabrera] Unfortunately, there is violence in Central America and our democratic processes are always encountering problems, obstacles, and surprises. All we have to do is take a look at the history of Latin America. Take Chile, for example; after years of democracy, they experienced a coup d'etat. Today an authoritarian government rules that country and has remained in power for many years. However, I feel that this process, this experience, should serve to enrich the Central American people's determination—in this case, the Guatemalan people's determination—to consolidate democracy. [passage omitted]

Security Measures at Presidential Palace

PA2106134888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2247 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—An official Guatemalan source said that starting today, the Vinicio Cerezo government adopted strict security measures controlling access to the Presidential Palace "because of fears of an attack."

The Presidency's security office placed a metal detector at the main entry gate through which visitors and officials must pass. In addition, visitors and officials must be searched by special agents.

The source, who asked to remain anonymous, said that "these security measures are to prevent the entry of weapons to perpetrate an attack."

He declined to comment on whether military intelligence services have discovered a plot by a group opposing the Christian Democratic regime to take over the government palace.

Public employees must pass through electronic devices and undergo a personal search. Even handbags are searched to detect firearms and explosives.

Meanwhile, visitors must wear a "visible" badge while they conduct administrative activities.

The U.S. Government donated the "electronic weapons detector gate" and portable devices carried by government palace security agents.

A government source revealed that "it is possible that opposition groups may want to cause an incident on 30 June, National Army Day."

On 11 May, the Army foiled an attempted coup when two military bases in the country's interior revelled. As a result, 10 top officers were reprimanded and 2 officers were discharged. Five civilians who were allegedly involved in the attempt were also reprimanded.

Honduras

Azcona, Officials on Salvadoran Border Dispute

PA2206034388 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1757 GMT 20 Jun 88

[News conference held by President Jose Azcona, Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras, and Carlos Roberto Reina, Honduran representative at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Honduran-Salvadoran suit, with local reporters at the Mirrors Room of the Presidential Palace—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Reina] Honduras will defend every inch of its territory: its land, islands, and maritime borders. Our defense is aimed there. Of course, there are difficult situations, as in every trial. If we had nothing to argue, why would we be going to the ICJ? In the past, in the Nicaraguan case, some jurists said: The judgment [laudo] is everything. We only need to say: Here is the judgment, and by saying that we will win the trial. However, 7,000 square km of Honduras were occupied by Nicaragua. We went to court to resolve a problem, as we are now going to court to define a territory. This kind of argument does not form the basis of a trial; therefore, a chamber of the court, which is essentially the court itself, cannot hand down a ruling based on sentimental arguments.

[Moderator] Newsman Antonio Pineda Green of LA TRIBUNA.

[Pineda] What will the Honduran Government do in the meantime to protect the population from the Salvadoran Army and guerrillas, because we know well about various charges that they are carrying out incursions inside Honduran territory. This question is for the foreign minister. [passage omitted]

What is the Foreign Ministry doing in this regard? What is the government doing in the meantime to protect the population from the Salvadoran Army and guerrillas who are carrying out incursions in Honduran territory?

[Lopez] Guard duty and protection of the national territory are specific tasks assigned to the government of the Republic. The instruments used by the government for that purpose are the Armed Forces and the various security mechanisms.

As for reports, we cannot conclude from them that there are real facts supporting them, because there are many political charges serving clearly identifiable interests that are linked to the Salvadoran civil war. Salvadoran rebels

have constantly charged Honduras of carrying out incursions in Salvadoran territory, supporting the Salvadoran Army, and allowing Salvadoran Army incursions to obtain advantages against the guerrillas.

There is something very clear: In keeping with the peace treaty, the two countries, governments, and states committed themselves to observing a status quo in the areas in dispute; that is, to not violate this status quo as long as a permanent solution to the problem is not reached. Once a solution is reached, each state would fully exercise its sovereignty, which also includes the security issue, up to the point where each country's border is recognized. Unfortunately, this was not honored during the phase when the Mixed Limits Commission was operating. Therefore, we must await the ruling to know how far our sovereignty goes in keeping with the border delimitation.

As for the areas in dispute, Honduras will continue to exercise control in areas under the status quo mandated by the general peace agreement. Whether we exercise control beyond those areas does not (?influence) the results of the ruling, because it is agreed that there is a freeze on belongings of either state in disputed areas. This should not be a matter of concern regarding the ruling.

As for the populations within disputed areas, they are very small. The Armed Forces are exercising control over areas traditionally under Honduran jurisdiction. However, they will not go beyond those areas, simply to avoid violating the status quo mandated in the general peace agreement. [passage omitted]

[Azcona] I am going to explain the matter regarding the land pockets. Indeed, Salvadoran guerrillas are occupying land pockets. Because of the commitment Honduras made in the general peace treaty signed in Lima, Peru, the Honduran Armed Forces cannot enter those areas; therefore, they have become a sort of a sanctuary. There must be a ruling by the ICJ stating where our border is. We will enter into the phase of demarcating the border—rather, we will continue demarcation, because this phase has been 60-percent completed.

Even so, the Honduran Armed Forces are fully entitled to exert their sovereignty over those land pockets, in compliance with their constitutional mandate. Indeed, that is what will be done. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] [Name indistinct] Toriano of "This Very Day" newscast and Telemundo.

[Toriano] I think that the president, the foreign minister, or Dr Reina, any of the three, could answer my question. For example, as I understand this matter, our chief international problem is El Salvador. I am not [words indistinct] Nicaragua either, which is a serious problem for us now. I understand that so long as the problem you are dealing with is not settled, El Salvador continues to be and will continue to be our greatest problem, even much later. If we resolve our problem with El Salvador, will this country be able to resolve other international problems that are overwhelming us, such as the problem with Nicaragua, of which we are all aware? Also, will any administration have enough tranquillity to resolve the major domestic problems? Is El Salvador a priority matter? Is El Salvador an essential issue that will enable us to resolve our problems regarding Nicaragua?

[Moderator] The question is for the President Azcona, Foreign Minister Lopez Contrera, and Dr Reina. However, the foreign minister will answer.

[Lopez] From a historical viewpoint, the border dispute with El Salvador has been regarded as the fundamental foreign policy problem of Honduras. Perhaps this can be explained because we have established delimitation procedures with other neighboring states. Sooner or later, those procedures have culminated in a delimitation of borders. That has not happened with El Salvador. As we have said, we have [words indistinct] with El Salvador for 175 years. However, we have been unable to resolve through other procedures—such as direct bilateral negotiations—the issue of the sovereignty of each country in its territory. [passage omitted]

Therefore, instead of talking about a fundamental foreign policy problem as a puzzling matter, I think that this problem has a solution. It has had a solution for 8 years. We are seeking the implementation of that solution. There are other problems. I do not think it can be said that this is an essential issue and that if this problem is not resolved we will not be able to take care of other international problems [words indistinct]. In fact, the government is taking care of all domestic and international problems. The problem is that democracy is not a political solution to all domestic and foreign problems at once. Instead, it is a process whereby the public and their instruments—the news media—follow each day how the government resolves problems. The government does so in a climate of freedom. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

H. Ortega Letter on Contra Kidnap Victims

PA2106170488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 88

["Excerpt" of letter sent by Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega to OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo—date not given]

[Text] I write you to express the Nicaraguan Government's growing concern over the fate of the Nicaraguan citizens kidnapped by the counterrevolution.

Several days have passed since 19 June [as heard], and the contras have failed to keep their promise to release the 66 people they admit to having kidnapped. According to my government, however, the release of those 66 kidnapped people will not close the general issue of the kidnap victims.

The contras' failure to keep their promise and their denial of having kidnapped hundreds of Nicaraguans, as we have reported, demonstrates once again that the counterrevolutionary Directorate does not have the political willingness to promote the trust required to enable the present process to culminate in a permanent cease-fire agreement.

The Nicaraguan Government believes that the 66 citizens can be released in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The contras can deliver them without any additional procedures to our embassy in Tegucigalpa; we will provide all the necessary facilities for this.

Communique Issued on Sapoa Agreement
PA2206032388 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 Jun 88 p 5

[Communique No 43 issued by the Information and Press Directorate of the Presidency in Managua on 20 June]

[Text] Communique No 43

The Information and Press Directorate of the Presidency of the Republic reports to the Nicaraguan people the communique sent by Defense Minister Army General Humberto Ortega, head of the Nicaraguan Government's high-level delegation to the talks to achieve a permanent cease-fire, to His Excellency Mr Joao Baena Soares, OAS secretary general.

Managua, 20 June, 1988

His Excellency Mr Joao Clemente Baena Soares

OAS Secretary General

Dear Mr Ambassador:

I hereby answer your letter dated 8 June 1988, concerning the Inter-American Human Rights Commission (CIDH) ruling on Article 3 of the Sapoa agreement.

My government believes the CIDH ruling should be exclusively given to Your Excellency, in accordance with Article 3 of the Sapoa agreement, which states that the OAS secretary general "is the guarantor and depository" of the CIDH's ruling.

My government believes that, given the seriousness required for the complex Sapoa negotiating process, it is not wise or necessary to modify Article 3 of the Sapoa agreement, since that would strengthen the sectors that are trying to disrupt the Sapoa agreement and undermine the negotiating process for a firm and lasting peace.

To conclude, I reassert my government's belief that the above mentioned CIDH ruling must exclusively remain in Your Excellency's possession. Logically, you may disclose the ruling to other interested parties once the agreement for a permanent cease-fire is signed.

Truly yours,

Army General Humberto Ortega Saavedra

Managua, 20 June, 1988

For a dignified peace. Free homeland or death.

Information and Press Directorate, Presidency of the Republic

D'Escoto Comments on Talks With Contras
LD2006225688 Prague CTK in English 1940 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Managua June 20 (CTK correspondent)—Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto believes that new talks between the Nicaraguan Government and leaders of counter-revolutionary forces on a final ceasefire in the country depend primarily on the United States.

He told CTK in an interview that the reluctance of the counter-revolutionaries to continue the talks stems from their hope that they will receive more support from the United States. "If they see that they will not, they will be more accessible to a dialogue for which we are striving", he said.

He noted that some people in the U.S. Administration give Somozaists the hope that more assistance will be provided. Even President Reagan is doing everything to save his project of death and destruction in Nicaragua and to provide more financial support to the Somozaists.

He noted that Nicaragua is the only Central American country trying to fulfill its obligations stemming for it from the peace accords signed in Guatemala last year. He believes that the peace process launched by these agreements is now weakened, there is not even a mechanism to verify how the agreements are being implemented. If such a mechanism of verification, especially of the commitment not to permit the use of the territories of Central American states as a base for aggression, is agreed at the meeting of foreign ministers of five Central American countreis in Honduras this week, it would mean hope for progress in the peace process in the region, D'Escoto said. He appreciated the proposal of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo that the presidents of five Central American countries meet again in Guatemala on the first anniversary of the signing of the accords.

Miguel D'Escoto stressed the great patience of the Nicaraguan Government in searching for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the country. Nicaragua will continue to strive for such a solution. If it cannot be achieved, it will again defend itself militarily, he stressed.

Envoy to Cuba on Talks With Contras, Dialogue

FL2006193688 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1239 GMT 20 Jun 88

["Exclusive" interview with Gustavo Moreno, Nicaraguan ambassador to Cuba, by reporter Roberto Agudo, for "Morning Magazine" program; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Agudo] Nicaragua undoubtedly remains the center of world attention, especially in the wake of the reiterated threats of the United States against that small country. We wanted to talk about the American threats and the current situation in Nicaragua. Who best to do this than the Nicaraguan ambassador in Cuba, Comrade Gustavo Moreno. What is the situation prevailing right now in Nicaragua following the United States's intransigent attempts to derail the peace talks? That is, the talks to obtain a negotiated solution to the war, which has been going on for some years now.

[Moreno] Yes. Before answering that question, I would like to briefly recall the Santa Fe document of 9 years ago. Even prior to the triumph of the Sandinist people's revolution, the most recalcitrant right-wing hawks of the United States were drawing up their platform, their strategy of aggression against Nicaragua. In other words, we, our people, have been suffering a war since then. Today this war is costing us, such a small country, more than $3.5 billion.

We are not afraid of the threats proffered these 9 years by the Reagan administration. We have triumphed. We have answered the United States blow for blow—obviously at a very high cost. However, we are constantly facing these American threats. We are not afraid. We are not alone. We have the solidarity of many people—the Cuban people and government, and other socialist countries. Therefore, in this confrontation we are going to go on to see how far the United States goes.

[Agudo] A few hours ago President Reagan said that Nicaragua had to be pressured militarily to force it to the negotiating table. Not too long ago President Ortega said that the doors were open; in other words, that the dialogue could be continued. This contrasts with the United States' threats. What is your view?

[Moreno] From the beginning of the Sapoa talks we were very clear about the fact that the one we had to talk with was the United States. The instrument—the counterrevolution—did not enjoy the independence to sign agreements with us. When it made the conversations fail—that was their original intent—the United States thought that Nicaragua had to be pressured some more for agreements to be signed. We are going to find, or look for other scenarios, other possibilities; we are going to search for peace no matter what. We are going to look for this peace either at the negotiating table or through (?force). Either way, peace will have to come to Nicaragua.

[Agudo] In other words, although the United States might increase military aid to the contras, that would mean absolutely nothing?

[Moreno] Absolutely. We are certain, we know from various news sources that what the contras are waiting for is to pocket a few more dollars, take part in that game of corruption to get more dollars, like the four corrupt contra leaders. But this does not at all mean that the millions the contras might receive will bring them victory. The contras are strategically defeated. They have no chance. We have been able to talk to some substantive contra groups. They are ready to accept amnesty and join the peace process. We believe that those dollars are not going to help any. Our people are firm, victorious. We are about to clinch the victory.

[Agudo] How is the national dialogue proceeding? That is, the talks the Sandinist government is holding with the country's various political forces.

[Moreno] Right now the 14 parties—or rather, 16 parties, because the COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] is also participating. [sentence as heard] We are ready to continue the national dialogue, which is now momentarily interrupted. We have introduced the municipalities bill in the National Assembly. We expect to hold municipal elections at the end of this year or the beginning of the next. All opposition forces will be able to participate in this exercise. Nevertheless, we continue to seek to have all parties involved in the national dialogue. Unfortunately, some agree, but others do not.

But we are working on it. We have held 25 meetings with the political parties as part of the national dialogue. We are going to keep at it. The talks are momentarily interrupted, but we believe that dialogue will continue. There is a chance of reaching agreements with the groups, the parties, and the more serious figures in our country. They are ready to sign a peace accord.

[Agudo] Concerning this sustained American aggression against Nicaragua, how might we quantify how much this aggression has cost the Nicaraguan people?

[Moreno] I said earlier that this war cost us a little over $3.5 billion. The war of aggression alone cost us approximately 18,000 casualties. This means that all social, education, and health programs were affected. I want to say that 56 centavos out of every cordoba are spent on defense. This obviously has made our economy deteriorate considerably. The cost of the war is the price we pay to be free, to preserve our dignity, our self-determination, our independence against an imperialist power that still thinks it has a right over our people.

[Agudo] I understand that a meeting of Central American foreign ministers may be held in Honduras in the next few hours, perhaps in 2 or 3 days. We also recall

how Nicaragua has denounced Honduras because, as everybody knows, the counte.revolutionary groups remain in its territory. What can you tell us about this?

[Moreno] Well, we hope that something can be achieved at the foreign ministers' meeting. However, it must be said that of all the Central American countries that signed the Esquipulas agreements, Nicaragua has been the one that has fulfilled its part. Honduras continues to be a springboard for aggression. Honduras keeps supplying aid to the contras, illegal and immoral aid, as we continue to call it. Honduras is lending itself as a springboard for aggression. Nowhere in El Salvador is the agreement fulfilled, and the same goes for Guatemala. There are demands in Costa Rica for the Esquipulas agreements to be kept. In other words, save for Nicaragua, which continues to repeatedly denounce Honduras, which is still serving as a springboard for aggression, no one else has observed the agreements. We have gone beyond the Esquipulas agreements. Sapoa is evidence.

So, we have lifted the state of emergency. There is freedom of movement and speech, despite the war. There are laws. You can't violate laws. There are laws in all countries of the world, and those laws have to be obeyed. Outside of that, there is freedom to speak. I wish you could see LA PRENSA, a CIA paper in Nicaragua. That paper practically engages in an apologia of crime.

So, we are the only ones to keep the agreements. We will continue to do so. We are seriously interested in peace. Our people need it; our people want it.

[Agudo] Lastly, Mr Moreno, how do you view the future? What are the real prospects?

[Moreno] Well, unfortunately, we would have liked in this last Sapoa meeting to have signed substantive agreements that might bring peace to Nicaragua. However, we feel that as long as the present U.S. Administration is there, it is going to be very difficult to achieve peace in Nicaragua. In other words, that administration harbors a visceral hate toward our people, a visceral hate against our Sandinist Front. It has only 5 months to go. We would expect a more conscientious approach from the next administration. We feel that we will be able to talk to the next administration, whether Republican or Democrat. It is hard to imagine that such a criminal war as the one initiated by the U.S. Administration almost 8 years ago can continue against a small country.

[Agudo] Well, we know you are a very busy man. I would just like to point out to our listeners what a very recent survey said. If we take Nicaragua's population and territorial extent and compare it with the United States and the 18,000 dead caused by this not so covert war, the survey says, it can be said that Nicaragua has lost more men than all those lost by the United States in all the wars it has waged, all the aggression it has been engaged in.

Mr Moreno, thank you.

Nunez Tellez on Platform, Economy, CDN Stand

PA2206171188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Interview with National Assembly President Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Nunez] Our national electoral platform at the municipal and national levels [words indistinct] for all Nicaraguans, given our current problems in the economic, political, and negotiating areas, aims to maintain intact the achievements of the revolutionary process.

As of today, none of the political parties has guaranteed this; neither the ultraright, which does not support this process, nor the self-styled ultraleft or left, which have been used by groups opposing the revolutionary process. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] As for economic problems, [words indistinct] is the revolution (?weaker) or stronger?

[Nunez] We have encountered great concern among the revolution's strongest supporters for the search for specific, real, effective, political, and consistent solutions to attack the very roots of problems affecting us.

These sectors are exercising their rights to complain and to demand solutions, to criticize inefficiency and administrative ineptitude. Despite this, we have noticed no decrease in trust in the revolution. Those sectors that believe that the main social bases of the revolution will be weakened in the next few months or years are wrong. Quite the contrary, the revolutionary political consciousness of our grassroots forces has been enriched and strengthened over the years. This is why we have resisted a war declared on us by an empire—a war we are still waging.

[Reporter] The Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] said that it is no longer trying to pass the 17 constitutional amendments; it now says that the FSLN or the government must surrender power.

[Nunez] The CDN has never been interested in constitutional amendments. Their stand is stupid and ridiculous. I do not believe that it is a serious proposal from politicans who aspire to govern this country, because if they believe that this is the way to reach power within the political arena, we would be seeing a significant step backward in the CDN leaders' strategic and tactical assessment of how the revolutionary process works. [passage omitted]

Opposition Parties, Groups on Economic Measures

PA2206162888 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 22 Jun 88

["Political declaration" issued by 14 opposition political parties and organizations in Managua on 21 June]

[Text] In view of the economic measures adopted by the Sandinist government on 14 June and statements made by President Daniel Ortega 2 days later when addressing the PROSAN [Sanitation Products of Nicaragua] enterprise workers, the undersigned 14 political parties and organizations, which have participated in the national dialogue, hereby state:

1. The lifting of wage and price restrictions and the cordoba devaluation aimed at partly correcting the serious economic mistakes made by the government are insufficient and inappropriate. Since we are lacking the indispensable foreign financing and in view of the fact that a substantial production increase is impossible, the immediate effect of these maneuvers has only been increased inflation, thus worsening our workers' purchasing power and lowering our people's standard of living to an intolerable level of hunger and misery.

2. The serious crisis confronted by our country is an overall crisis and its causes and origin are basically political. Patriotic and coordinated efforts, essential to overcoming the current disastrous economic situation, and loans and support from international financial organizations will only be possible and yield positive results within an environment of democracy, peace, and national unity.

3. The government's refusal to discuss and to approve agreements with the domestic civilian opposition with regard to constitutional and legal changes designed to bring about national democratization and its refusal to allow meetings between the armed resistance delegates and the 14 political parties and organizations have worsened the overall Nicaraguan crisis and have hindered, for the time being, the processes of national reconciliation and peace that our people want to develop within an environment of democracy and freedom.

4. Because these economic measures are contrary to the spirit and letter of the international commitments signed by President Ortega, we reject his totalitarian threats to undermine the political opposition, thus violating human rights and our Constitution.

5. We demand that the Sandinist government patriotically amend its negative and unfeeling attitude and favorably respond to the demands being made by the striking workers so the Nicaraguan people, without foreign intervention, can begin to rebuild the social, economic, and political foundations of their homeland through a national dialogue and through the people's sovereign will, freely expressed in authentic democratic elections.

Managua, 21 June 1988

[Signed] Social Democratic Party, PSD Social Christian Party
Constitutionalist Liberal Party
Nicaraguan Conservative Party
Communist Party of Nicaragua
Popular Social Christian Party
Independent Liberal Party
Conservative Party of Nicaragua
Central American Unionist Party
Unity and Democratization Movement
Liberal Party
Social Christian Party [list of parties and number of party signatories as heard]

Panama

Speeches at Anti-Imperialist Groups Meeting

Gen Noriega Speech

PA2206225788 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2104 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Speech by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Panama Defense Forces (FDP) commander, at the meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Text] Good afternoon, brothers from the Caribbean, Central America, and Latin America: Omar Cordoba, Luis Osborne, Antonio Martinez, Cifuente Perez, Hugo Menesses, Clemente Ross, Eugenio Godfrey, Michael Douglas, Rose Douglas, Ralph Gonsalves, Oscar Allen, James Miller, Dennis Namphy, David Widmark, Tim Hector, George Odlum, Michel Banguel, Batis Lemun, Rafael Taveras, Rafael Baez, Jose Gonzalez, Juan Percia, Miguel Mejias, Ivan Rodriguez, Don Rojas, Olga Sanabria, Tony Hariot, George Bell, Max Moyoley, Lionel Carey, Silvina Santos, Edmond Dethur, Rigoberto Padilla, James McWarren, Mary Alice Wother, Judy White, Ben Doply, Guillermo West, Jorge Cuellar, Pablo Hernandez, Evelio Santos, Eddy Paniagua, and Manuelia Suazo.

A Panamanian greeting to all these brothers who are participating in this third plenary meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Assembly from this land, which is your land. [applause]

There is history and states created by God. [sentence as heard] There is only one empire we can accept: the divine empire, a superior kind of justice, a moral justice—God. This is the only kind of imperialism we can accept, the only imperialism in the face of which we will bow. [applause]

Geography and history unites us, but the empire has separated us and turned us almost into strangers. When we look for our roots, we find they are in the Caribbean.

People from there came to our soil to work on a canal that has given us many headaches. This is why we feel the same anxiety, the same dignity, the same anger you feel in the face of injustices that have been committed in your lands.

The history of Latin American nations has been marked by the imperialist pendulum that functions on the basis of aggression and fears. I say aggression because we know of past Marine landings in the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua, of the aggressions against Mexico, and of the brutal expansion through Central America in an attempt to conquer it through the big-stick policy.

The aggression is no different now. Now there is psychological aggression and brutal economic aggression. Only the methods, the system, have changed.

But the imperialist doctrine of aggression persists, and it has now become more sophisticated because it is aimed at the hunger of the Latin American peoples and the hunger of the Panamanian people.

This is why we Panamanians, for a full year, have been increasing our moral capacity. We get this ability to resist from all the congresses held here, all the Latin American mass forces meetings we have attended, the intellectual forces that have supported Panama, the foreign parliaments, and the world's worthy men who know and understand that the last battle for Latin America's dignity is being waged here. [applause]

Today, we heard the reading of a paper written by Enrique Geenzier, which was also read at a session of the Bolivarian-Panamanian Society 162 years ago. In the document, Geenzier said that Bolivar's call for the Amphictyonic Congress to be held in Panama was also boycotted by the United States. The paper also stated that according to a historical letter on file, the Panama Canal should be built and backed by all the Latin American countries. However, the United States failed to comply with this. They are used to not complying. They are used to breaching anything they sign. That is why they have breached every part of the canal treaties. They are still breaching them.

The Panamanian people, who do not attack anybody, only request to be allowed to act and request respect for their right to self-determination and freedom to choose their friends and enemies. This people only asks to be allowed to do in its territory what is right, without foreign troops interfering on the way to our beaches, foreign checkposts on our streets, or foreign flags that offend the Panamanian flag by also flying atop Ancon Hill.

This is what we ask for. Only this. Let us resolve our problems. The word democracy—since the time of the Greeks, who coined it—has taken on a number of nuances and has expressed a number of concepts. Consider the Haitian democracy, which the United States has accepted. [applause]

Fundamentally, it is important that all delegates tell their political organizations to understand that here in Panama, the empire, the U.S. establishment, has created a laboratory [caldo de cultivo], an experimental area, just as it did in Vietnam. In Vietnam, the U.S. Government experimented with uniform fabrics, food, weapons, medicines, etc. Here in Panama, the laboratory experiment is how to have aggression without having deaths or soldiers missing in action, as happened in Vietnam.

Here the aggression and the experiment is how to destroy a country's economy, how to psychologically tarnish a country's prestige, how to confuse its leaders, and how to isolate the leaders within the Latin American community.

All types of plans for psychological war have been used to the maximum: how to implement them to destroy Latin American leaders, to remove them, to subjugate them, in order to subdue a goverment so it will sign [agreements] so they [the United States] can keep the military bases from which they will continue the aggression against all Latin American nations. This is what they want to attain in Panama: to keep their bases with no discussion, granted to them by subservient governments, with no concern for geopolitical and geostrategic realities and the security of a country that has not signed agreements for those bases. In a constantly changing world, Star Wars turns the country signing those agreements into a target. This also subjects Panama—the country signing those agreements—to the dangers from the enemies of the empire.

Thus, this is an experiment that Panama has been enduring and analyzing for the past year, during which the experimental techniques used in the Philippines were transferred to Panama: the destructive psychological advisers, the buying of people's consciences, the search for human weaknesses among the country's various sectors—the Legislative Assembly, the Defense Forces, the political parties—and the economic investment to buy people's minds in direct proportion to the weaknesses and vulnerability of men. This is the experiment that has taken place in Panama.

[There are] poor nations that believe that what is occurring in Panama could not happen in other countries. What a big mistake. What is happening in Panama will be used as the springboard in the future for any nation they want to subjugate or attain benefits from for the empire. Therefore, Panama's situation is not just Panama's concern. The situation in Panama is the Latin American phenomenom. It is the typical phenomenom of aggression against Latin America, which could be transferred to any other Latin American country. Today it is Panama, tomorrow it could be Honduras, Guatemala, Argentina, Peru, or the Caribbean islands, any one of them. Therefore, in Panama we either resist, fight, and win, or we cry for what we did not defend with dignity and courage. [applause]

We are a peaceful country. Our work and investment in Bolivar's ideals as a military and political force has been the search for peace and the mediation in conflicts in the region in favor of positive solutions.

This land has hosted many talks for the benefit of people, never for evil purposes; for the search for solutions, never for conflicts. However, they look at us as strange specimens and want to impose Central American-type traumas [traumas de Centroamericanizacion] on us. Our problem is entirely Panamanian and domestic in nature, and they should not push or stick their hands into this problem. [applause]

We support eastern Caribbean English-speaking islands that are seeking unification through the participation of the masses. We support the people of the Antilles who are still suffering from colonialism, because we know about colonialism and because we are struggling to uproot the last vestige that is still in our territory. We understand them and we support them.

We support the struggle of the Central American peoples for their self-determination so solutions to their conflicts may be found without foreign pressures.

The Panamanian cause is the cause of Latin America; therefore, it is a fair, honest, and clean cause. In Panama, there is a different type of armed force for which we want respect and which was born out of the needs of this territory and its political formation. Torrijos founded these armed forces to contribute to development by becoming an agent of change [agente de cambio]. The Panama Defense Forces, which we lead today and which we have taken to its fullest intensity and projection, is an army that will never return to the past, will never have political masters, and will never serve the interests of the Panamanian oligarchy in repressing the people. [applause]

With the FDP, there is no turning back to the past; with the FDP, there is not one step backward; with the FDP, the oligarchy will never, never put their foot on the Panamanian people's neck as it did in the past. [applause]

This FDP has hoisted the flag atop Ancon Hill and has sworn it will never lower it to allow some other foreign flag to wave over their territory again. This is the FDP. This is the FDP, which inspires fear because its wealth, power, and aggressiveness lies in the morale and the capacity of each honest, patriotic, and nationalist man. That is our aggressiveness; that constitutes our combat capability; that constitutes our offensive capability, the capacity of the moral forces that surrounds us.

There are no Cuban, Libyan, or foreign commando units in this territory, because the FDP does not need them! [applause] I am referring to a report stating that a Cuban commando unit entered a U.S. military base. [Noriega pauses, shouts from crowd]

The phenomenon of the palm tree exists. I found it in the Bible in Psalm No 92 [laughter] when Leviathan becomes afraid when he sees the palm trees waving. [applause] So, [pauses] we wanted to make this clear to the visitors, because the news came out yesterday [as heard], and I want you to leave well informed. There has not been any commado unit. This is something that offends an elementary, elementary [repeats himself] human concept. That is, that [there were] 50 men, including wounded or dead, and not a single man or a single drop of blood or anything was found, as if these men were extraterrestials. [laughter]

This FDP is designed within the framework of the popular concept of development. It has a government in our own likeness. In this government, the FDP is not one of war plans and games. The FDP is not the one that is offensive in a war of annhilation. Its war is against hunger, poverty, and illiteracy. That is its war. Our civic action plans are aimed at the people, the population, without demagoguery or without capitalizing politically. They simply seek to make, perpetuate, and solidify our national security. That is national security. Those armies where soldiers remain in garrisons playing the games of Napoleonic wars are the armies of countries that now have guerrillas in their territories and have been unable to drive them out. [applause]

We support democracy. We support a participatory, independent, people's democracy. We do not support a democracy that has elections and lets the people die of hunger. That is the kind of democracy [the United States] wanted to impose on us at the last talks, while they did not even succeed in getting the $70 million they asked for. [sentence as heard] Corazon Aquino is still waiting for the money. All those other countries to which they promised reconstruction funds are still waiting for the money. In Panama, and on Panamanian streets, there are still naive people thinking the empire will grant them $5 billion for them to reach the presidency. [applause, crowd shouts: "Not one step backward"]

We must tell John Maisto [U.S. Embassy deputy chief of mission] to return to the Philippines to ask how much the Philippines received and how much they have rebuilt. The answer will be that the leftist forces, the communist parties, and the anarchist groups have grown and are now important in the Philippines. [applause]

Our democracy must work in terms of this people's and this country's needs. It must work in terms of this country's destiny. We must not and cannot accept democracies that have foreign tutors and porters. We do not want nor accept democracies discussed and drafted at the U.S. Embassy. [applause] We do not want democracies that maintain the status quo of the current arrogant and defiant colonialism.

We are defenseless people. We are friendly people. Not one U.S. citizen has ever been kidnapped or attacked for ideological or political reasons here in Panama. Panama

has not been like Lebanon for the U.S. people. The U.S. analysts and diplomatic representatives, however, have deceived their chiefs and superiors, including their President. They have distorted the Panamanian situation. They have distorted our destiny and the Panamanian people's situation, ability, and honesty. Those representatives tried to measure Panama with the same standards they use to measure other countries in Africa and Asia.

Gentlemen, brothers of the Caribbean, brothers attending this plenary meeting, I want to avail myself of this solemn moment, using all your mental and moral strength, to ask to whom it concerns, meaning the ones who kidnapped Dr Gomez Hurtado of the Conservative Party of Colombia, to safeguard his life, to safeguard his life [repeats himself]. I ask Dr Gomez Hurtado's kidnappers to safeguard his life and avoid further bloodshed in that sister nation. The repercussions of what happens in Colombia are also felt in Panama. [applause] Therefore, we appeal to those who hold him captive and ask them to safeguard his life. [applause]

Brothers of the Caribbean, Central America, and all of Latin America, we thank you for your presence. Every minute you spend in Panama represents the leadership, moral strength, and instrument of strength and power of free nations and dignified men—those who refuse to kneel in front of the empire, who hold their heads high and can say with strength and dignity: This is the people's hour; and life is superfluous during the people's hour. [applause]

Cuban Delegate Address

PA2206031588 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1534 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Speech by Omar Cordoba, chief of the Caribbean Section of the America Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, at the meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...of the OAS, with Contadora and the Group of Eight, with an increasing agreement between these groups and the EEC, and with the balance pointer seriously damaged as an instrument of imperialist intervention.

As I have already said, part of the anachronistic dream of the U.S. rightists was to rebuild the interventionist military framework in Latin America. The new interventionism was composed of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty and CONDECA [Central American Defense Council], in addition to a new policy of close alliance and cooperation with military dictatorships, abandoning the [words indistinct] line in this regard.

The creation of a vast military infrastructure in Central America and the Caribbean, the reinforcement of the U.S. military presence in the region through this infrastructure, and constant exercises in the area would be joined by the close cooperation of regional allies in the new counterrevolutionary drive. This was the initial plan.

In the Caribbean area, the formation of the Caribbean Basin Initiative offered a few crumbs that concealed a true warmongering purpose: strengthening the Salvadoran regime. As the facts have confirmed, this initiative has proved to be just a sale and promotion of hopes and the source of annoyance and dissatisfaction—all of which is protested even by the circle of allies of the United States, which bears the heavy weight of the crisis that these peoples suffer.

The United States used El Salvador as a laboratory for their new counterinsurgency doctrine in the framework of the so-called low-intensity conflict. It was supposed that this time, unlike Vietnam, this war—in which the lessons learned in the Southeast Asian jungles would be applied—would be won. FMLN military actions have occurred again in El Salvador after several years in which they were impossible. While contradictions between U.S. sectors and the Salvadoran High Command aggravate in the military field, the guerrillas have not only demonstrated their ability to survive, but have expanded their areas of action and improved their operational methods. In the political field, the Pentagon's counterinsurgency plan has suffered its greatest setback.

Meanwhile, the masses, pressured by the explosive economic and social situation and the attrition caused by the war, are actively demanding their participation in oppositing the regime. The Christian Democratic Party, now hit by the sudden disappearance of Duarte from the scene because of his illness, is politically collapsing because of the pressure of the rightists and the oligarchs, who cannot see the results of their own surrender-oriented policy as a function of the war.

Everything seems to indicate that also in this regard, Reagan will transfer a crisis to his successor, a crisis even greater than that inherited from former President Carter. If we take into consideration the extremely unlikely and exceptional circumstances in Grenada that permitted such an intervention, it is difficult to imagine that the United States could have achieved its objectives in that small island of barely 100,000 inhabitants, considering the popular and international support for Comrade Maurice Bishop.

As for Nicaragua, 8 years after the United States declared the Sandinist revolution's inadvisability and opted fully for a military alternative; used the mercenary and Somozist counterrevolutionaries; prodded neighboring armies on a regional war, terrorizing the region with noisy military deployments and exercise; and spent billions of dollars in its dirty war against Managua, Washington's military victory slipped through its fingers. More and more, the U.S. Government is being forced to continue the conflict in the political and negotiating field.

The U.S. rightists and the Reagan administration were apparently so sure of how relatively easy it would be to trample on the treaties signed with this small Central American country in which we are now speaking—and in which territory the United States has a colonial enclave full of military bases and in which there is the ominous presence of the Southern Command—that this objective, explicitly outlined by the Santa Fe committee, was not listed until mid-1986 on an agenda that included those simple matters to be settled prior to the end of the presidential term.

In Panama, the Yankees arrogantly tried to impose a president and change the Defense Forces chief as if we were still living in the time of Walker, but they crashed against the dignity of a people determined to suffer hunger and even die to defend the sacred cause of its homeland, trampled by foreign boots for nearly a century.

There is no doubt that in Panama's peculiar and disadvantageous circumstances, this country's stoic resistance and its successful challenge of the imperialist arrogance through the people's patriotism, determination, and courage is a fact that will have continental repercussions in this hemisphere as broad as the Malvinas episode.

This people and its Defense Forces are providing an unforgettable lesson to Latin America and the world. The peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean today render homage to the Panamanian people's contribution to the cause of sovereignty and independence of our nations.

After an initial period during which the Caribbean and the Latin American governments were shamefully pressured into breaking off relations with Cuba, it is now the United States itself that has been isolated. In the last few years, there has been a growing process of political and economic cooperation, which slowly but firmly is emerging, to the consternation of the United States. The Reagan years, far from witnessing new measures to isolate Cuba in this hemisphere, will conclude with almost all Latin American countries reestablishing relations with Cuba and with the request of the Group of Eight's presidents that Cuba be reincorporated into the OAS. This is an unmistakeable policy failure for Washington, which for over 3 decades has sought to impose its will on these nations by preventing them from developing normal relations with our country.

The U.S. threats were unable to bend the dignity and the internationalist feeling of our people, who are writing, together with our Angolan brethren, a glorious page in history in fighting the rascist hordes of South Africa in Cuito Cuanavale. The arrogance of Pretoria's warlike organization, supported by its Washington partners, also crashed in Angola as the Reagan administration's rightist plan suffered another defeat.

One just has to say that Reagan is leaving our region in an impoverished state, with a huge and burdening foreign debt after having transferred billions of dollars to international banks. Those dollars could have been used to halt the crash of the regional standard of living and thus alleviate the explosive social situation in our region. This is what his successor in the White House will inherit.

One just has to mention the case of Haiti as an oustanding example of the situation in this area of the world, although it is not the only one. The Caribbean has become the permanent site of maneuvers, operations, military exercises, and war games of the Pentagon with the participation of its local and extracontinental allies. At the same time, the military advisers and training programs were intensified with the Caribbean armed forces. Furthermore, the United States thinks this area is its backyard and prefers to maintain control over the defense and security of the area. The United States insists on promoting a regional system of security that it will control directly and that will serve as a screen for some phantom contingency.

Meanwhile, as a direct consequence of the Grenada events, the United States has undertaken the task of establishing and training special Caribbean military police units for counterinsurgency tasks to prevent situations similar to the one created by Comrade Maurice Bishop. As we said before, Caribbean countries and countries from Western Europe and NATO joined these destabilizing and threatening military-political affairs. There are also constant reports that new military bases will be established in some colonialist territories that still exist in the Caribbean area. It is also said that some existing bases will be used to train the repressive special military corps. We will cite the cases of Antigua, Puerto Rico, and Guantanamo Naval Base, just to cite a few examples.

Economically, neither the Caribbean Basin Initiative nor the IMF and World Bank conditional loans nor the insufficient packages of assistance managed through USAID have managed to save the exhausted Caribbean economies, which are worsened by the protectionist measures that are constantly clamped down on these small countries.

Efforts to use Seaga's Jamaica and Blaize's Grenada as models of capitalist development, in view of the influence of alternate models such as Cuba and Nicaragua, continue—in spite of it all. In the case of Jamaica, it receives large amounts of assistance, yet it is stricken by a crisis: unemployment, stagnation, debt, and growing social decay. This explains the Jamaicans' demands for changes. The Blaize government is confronting political erosion, and there is a growing rejection of the neoliberal economic formulas.

Politically, the destruction of the Grenada revolution was a blow to the Caribbean progressive revolutionary movement. The conservative offensive that followed the Grenada episode was unable to silence, through the Caribbean Democratic Union, the dissatisfaction of the impoverished masses, their demands for justice, and their hopes for living in peace and dignity.

Likewise, the conservative offensive has been unable to prevent the more realistic and pragmatic sectors, and others who are aware of the people's needs, to gradually gain votes. They are now in a position to make a positive adjustment in the prevailing balance of forces.

All of this allows us to state that Reagan's Caribbean policy has not achieved the impact and results for which it was designed. The hopes and optimism that the policy awakened in its docile allies and other sectors that were attracted by the imperialist fanfare have stepped aside and made way for the frustration and discontent of society and criticism among friends.

Meanwhile, in the field of people's movements, there is growing rebellion and demands for changes in the Caribbean just 6 months [as heard] from the end of the presidential term in the powerful northern nation. He is the President who tried to turn this region into a safe, calm, and tranquil place for his interests, and a happy place for his partners, free from the terrible threat of communism. The future U.S. president will be forced in coming years to cope with a serious political crisis in some Latin American and Caribbean countries, for which there will be no options or military actions. This will be the result of these years of nearsightedness and lack of common sense in the Reagan administration.

Comrades, U.S. hegemony is declining in our hemisphere. Although it began much earlier, it accelerated during the neoconservative administration of Ronald Reagan. U.S. hegemony in our hemisphere is at the center of the crisis, due to its control of our countries' economic, military, and political power. The United States will not be able to cope with its hegemonistic crisis with any liberal or conservative political scheme unless it gives up the axioms of domination upon which it has been based.

The peoples of our region must continue with our actions and struggle to the end for the defense of our full and undeniable sovereignty. Thank you. [applause]

Solis Comments on Measures To Overcome Crisis

PA2206202988 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1749 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Speech by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, during a meeting with national and local government officials in Tocumen, Panama Province—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] One of our main problems is that there is no real consciousness of the situation. There is also too much pessimism. Even during the crisis, by working together, uniting efforts, pooling our resources, and with some initiative and creativity, we can overcome the main problems of this crisis. But we are not doing this, either.

We commented on Education Minister Rolando Murgas' suggestion during a cabinet meeting to organize a pool of each one's inventory and surplus items to allow others to use them. No pool has been created, however. Days have gone by, and there is no pool because no one has placed surplus items at the disposal of others. No one has said: I have 10 surplus cars, and I will make them available to allow the Electoral Tribunal, the San Miguelito Mayoral Office, and others to use the cars I am not using. Nobody has said: I have this many surplus employees; let us see where we can reassign them. The genuine spirit of sacrifice needed to achieve this is missing. To achieve this, we also need coordination. [passage omitted]

On Sunday, we will mark 4 months in government. We live more in the past than in the present. We can no longer blame others and cry over the aggression. We must decide what to do. In 4 months, having done nothing or starting to do nothing is our responsibility. It is no longer a matter of blaming the previous minister and the previous situation. No, no, no, since February we have assumed responsibility. We are responsible for what we do or fail to do, because we can no longer continue to wait and to blame the gringos or others, the invasion, and so on. No one else is to blame anymore. From now on, we are the ones to blame for not working. [passage omitted]

I have said it is often easier to win a war than to achieve peace. The problem confronting us now is that although war has at least not made us succumb, we face the need to achieve peace. That is our current responsibility.

This is why I am much more disappointed at this meeting than at previous ones. Let us see why. If one looks at voter registration alone, Panama Province comprises 50 percent of the Republic. Out of 1,108,997 eligible voters in December 1987, 556,467 were from Panama Province. That is more than 50 percent. This applies to all areas. This province accounts for more than 50, 60, or 70 percent of other aspects. The opinions and attitudes of Panama Province determine peace in the rest of the Republic. Holding a meeting here with not much greater scope than previous ones worries me; it worries me a lot. [passage omitted]

The main issue is to continue the administrative cleanup, because tomorrow we cannot ask an employee to accept salary cuts—which has not yet been considered; nobody has officially suggested this—but if we have to do this, we cannot continue to pay people who pick up a check without having to work for it. We cannot achieve this with disloyal people within the administration; they are not disloyal to a specific person but to the Panamanian state and the country's development. Given these conditions, we cannot demand sacrifices if we do not clean this up first. We should at least have the moral authority to make demands.

This is not a limitation or a mandate of the World Bank or IMF that we are complying with; we are talking about two very distinct things. When the World Bank and the IMF suggested this as a measure to ensure they would be paid, we were facing a different situation. Today, we are

not talking about cuts to pay off the debt, cuts to satisfy IMF or World Bank interests. We are talking about the need to adjust our spending in line with our revenues to survive. Ours is a very different position. To say our measures are similar to those of the World Bank and IMF is very low-class demagoguery. [passage omitted]

The central government's funds are still not enough to meet its payroll. It is less than what is needed, and we need not mention operational expenditures of this government. Decentralized institutions are facing a better situation, but still not good enough to cover the central government's deficits. Although we accept the idea that the government is a single nucleus—central government and decentralized institutions are one—we still have not been able to overcome certain situations.

It is true that the situation is better today than on 15 March, 31 March, and 15 April. Of course, [words indistinct]. However, the situation has not improved enough to allow us to resolve specific problems.

I talked about—[legislator] Lucho Gomez said I looked very optimistic—the progress we have made compared with the period 26 February-30 April. There have been changes; however, these changes have not yet been significantly consolidated in the area of state resources.

Of course, we feel a lot better when international authorities, embassies, and so on show up and say we can now begin to work with a development program that had been previously completely frozen. However, this will not happen today. This will take time. In some housing programs, we have already been told that resources are now available to start the housing program that had been completely frozen in September or in earlier months.

Ambassadors are now starting to visit the Presidency. Nobody wanted to visit it previously although they said they recognize the Panamanian Government. They believed visits to the Presidency give them a high profile, and they wanted to maintain a low profile. That has been changing. The attitude of governments has been changing, and the attitude of creditor organizations outside the United States has been changing.

The banking problem has also changed. There was not a single bank in the world willing to accept National Bank deposits, fearing U.S. retaliation. Today, there are several banks that do not mind us sending them deposits: they are willing to work with us. There are changes in this regard. This is why we are viewing problems from a different perspective. [passage omitted]

That is why we do not want any new appointments without authorization from the Presidency. As for planning, the budget states [words indistinct] but there is no money to pay; I need approval and [words indistinct]. There are autonomous institutions that have not yet sent lists of employee names to be reviewed. We will wait and see. Others send lists and play around with them. [passage omitted]

Gentlemen, we can afford to wait no longer. The Presidency Ministry will have a department and personnel dedicated to coordinate and handle this problem. However, I tell ministers here that they cannot transfer personnel to anyone requesting them, because there is a center that is the only one empowered to authorize this. Not even the Supreme Court, nor [Electoral Tribunal President] Yolanda [Pulice de Rodriguez], nor anybody else can request personnel through other means.

Everyone must assume his or her responsibility, because aid is being given on a personal basis, as a favor, and that is not the point. The idea is to adequately channel the state's resources. Instead of saying: I need 10 pieces of lumber, ask MIVI [Ministry of Housing] to send them. MIVI cannot just send the 10 pieces of lumber; the request must be made through the appropriate channels. Maybe the same 10 pieces of lumber are urgently needed elsewhere. I understand the community representatives' position; I understand it very well. It seems impossible to abandon a project simply because we are short 2,000 balboas, or 3,000 balboas, or 4,000 balboas; or because we need more cement or another material. I know it seems like a waste. [passage omitted]

We have yet to overcome the crisis; we are in a better position, but we have yet to overcome the crisis. Yesterday the National Bank had $28 million in checks circulating on the market; if all the checks arrived at the same time, the bank would not have enough money to cover them. We simply cannot continue to issue checks. The legislators say: Let us meet and [words indistinct] would mean issuing one-half a million's worth of checks; and that would create another problem. We must resolve those problems as fast as we can.

I want all the country's sectors to understand the situation, because we still owe money to the ministers and [words indistinct] travel expenses. We cannot issue the checks, because we would cause a glut on the market, and once we break the market, we would cause a crisis that we could not possibly solve. We must protect what we have and what is helping us. I regret having to say this, but—since the planning minister does not say it—I am faced with the task. I am always given the unpleasant tasks. [laughter]

I should come here to discuss how we can coordinate our work and implement measures, but how can we talk about that if we insist on refusing to accept the truth about our situation? The government's income has dropped 50 percent, but we maintain the same expenses. We recently began to cut expenses in certain sectors; not all the ministries have implemented those cuts. Whoever has two or three salaries

is better off than one who has none. Therefore, we must see what has to be done, and we will spare no one; no more employees with two salaries. We must cut expenses because we have no other alternative.

Whoever wants to work will do so for one salary. We will see. However, we will not go abroad to request money for paying vagrants. No way; we will not do that. How can we contact foreign governments and request loans or donations if those governments later see that we are squandering the money in Panama? [passage omitted]

Upon leaving this meeting... [changes thought] The meeting was not attended by as many people as we expected, but we can repeat it any time. We can bring more personnel when we meet in Panama City West to prepare an overall plan, but within a framework that [words indistinct]. Everyone must prepare his plan, as was done in Cocle. Since this was not done, at least the deputy planning minister should stay after the meeting and organize things—while we eat something. [laughter] He should set up a team with four, five, six, or seven people in charge of preparing Panama City West's plan. We will thus be able to review it quickly, add it to the national plan, and establish the priorities. San Miguelito has already presented its plan. Panama City should present its own plan and Chepo and the other sectors should present theirs; and a board will coordinate the priorities at the province level and provide the appropriate solutions.

The future will not look so black if we are capable of applying a coat of white paint, and that is precisely why we are here.

Thank you. [applause]

Solis Palma Reiterates Support for Elections

PA2206123788 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency, has reiterated that the 1989 elections are extremely important and he will give the Electoral Tribunal all the necessary resources needed to carry out the elections. Solis Palma said this during a ceremony in which the final draft of the electoral regulations were presented.

The elections in Panama are only 10 months away—7 May 1989—and the much awaited event continues to generate controversy. On several occasions, Electoral Tribunal authorities have said they are ready to hold elections so Panamanians will be able to settle their political differences. However, there are other sectors who have voiced their skepticism on the procedures and resources [to hold the elections].

Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, said guarantees will be given for the elections to be held in the best possible way. However, Legislator Luis Gomez, of the progovernment party, discussed the lack of financial resources for holding the elections.

[Begin Gomez recording] All the progovernment legislators are worried over the lack of resources for holding the elections. We have analyzed the problem. The elections are just 10 months away. It costs approximately 22 million balboas to hold the elections. In order to win the elections, we—the government—need money. [sentence as heard] Nothing has been decided upon, but the possibility of a plebiscite, or a referendum, to consult the Panamanian people and ask them what they want has been mentioned. The legislators see that the Panamanian people want calm, peace, and balance. [end recording]

Magistrate Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez, president of the Electoral Tribunal, delivered to Solis Palma the document containing the 374 new articles that have been analyzed by the consultative electoral commission. Together with the other 122 articles that were presented some time ago, these 496 articles constitute the final draft of the electoral regulations that will be discussed by the Cabinet Council and then sent to the Legislative Assembly.

The consultative electoral commission has proposed that the Electoral Tribunal declare the winners of the elections for president and vice president of the Republic, legislators, councils, and corregimiento representatives. City mayors will no longer be elected. Instead, the executive branch will appoint city mayors, according to the provisions of Article 238 of the Constitution.

Independent nominations for president and vice president of the Republic will be accepted.

There is a penalty for those people who do not report to work after being appointed to a corporation. The penalty is 24 hours in jail and a fine of 20 to 500 balboas.

Officials To Seize Purchases From U.S. Stores

PA2306025788 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] More violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaty were announced yesterday at a meeting of the Legislative Assembly's Panama Canal Affairs Committee. These new violations harm Panamanian commerce.

Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Director Major Daniel Delgado and Deputy Canal Administrator Fernando Manfredo have stated that the U.S. Army and the Panama Canal Commission have opened some commercial centers for the use of officials who, according to the treaty, are not entitled to make purchases at such centers.

Pedro Brin Martinez, chairman of the Panama Canal Affairs Committee, explains the situation:

[Begin recording] [Brin] This severely harms Panamanian commerce, a fact that has been demonstrated. This situation also harms the national treasury, which will fail to receive substantial tax revenues. For example, the contents of the bags that the Panama Canal Commission

has sold to Canal Commission officials and their relatives who are not entitled to tax exemptions or to make purchases at these commercial centers in the Panama Canal Area are worth more than 3 million balboas, without mentioning the harm the national government, the Panamanian people, and Panamanian commerce have suffered as a result of the opening of commercial centers in that area of Panama.

[Reporter] What measures will the government adopt to keep U.S. commercial centers in the canal area from supplying civilians to the detriment of national commerce?

[Brin] Based on what Maj Delgado, the deputy finance minister, and other officials have told us, the government has cautioned that it will take mesasures along the roads leading to Panama City to seize products acquired in illegally established commercial centers. The government will also carry out raids in reverted Panama Canal areas to check Panamanian civilians who work for the Panama Canal Commission and at canal operation centers and who are not entitled to purchase any kind of appliances, tools, or food of any kind at those illegally established centers. The government will then proceed to seize the products and to fine the people involved in such activities. The raids will take place within the framework of the antismuggling struggle in Panama. [end recording]

Ritter on Policy for Appointing Consuls

PA2206225988 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Today Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter said that the practice of appointing to consulates people who want such appointments only to get rich in a few months is over. The foreign minister said that adjustments are being made to appoint permanent ambassadors to countries where there is not yet a Panamanian ambassador. Regarding consuls, Ritter said that from now on, they will have to be political agents who make known the Panamanian cause.

PRD Leader Offers To Resign To Aid Unification

PA2206145588 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 22 Jun 88 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Mr Carlos A. de Sedas has offered to resign from his position as national director of the Democratic Revolutionary Party's (PRD) CEN [National Executive Committee] for "the sake of the unification and consolidation of the largest and strongest political organization of UNADE [National Democratic Union]." [passage omitted]

PRD Provincial Leaders on Party Election

PA2206233688 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Communique issued by provincial Democratic Revolutionary Party presidents—date and place not given]

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] presidents in the provinces of Cocle, Herrera, Veraguas, Los Santos, and Western Panama have approved this communique during a meeting.

We, the undersigned, PRD provincial leaders and mass members, aware of the role we have played in every political activity of the party, think it is fair and necessary to consider some of the party members in the country's interior for a position on the National Executive Committee, which will soon be elected.

We have to clearly establish our position. We do not seek to create division or weaken the permanent unity that must mark all the groups, sectors, and people who compose our powerful political organization.

Because of this, we expect our aspiration to be taken into consideration by those who have the great responsibility to organize the team of men who will lead our country in the face of both the current situation, which results from the U.S. Government's aggression and its domestic allies, and the election in which we should all participate as one.

Finally, we have formed a PRD front of the interior provinces. This front will coordinate every party action in each of the provinces represented in the front.

[Signed] Professor Dario Fernandez Jaen for Cocle, Mateo Castillero for Veraguas, Jorge Franco for Herrera, Cosme Trujillo for Western Panama, and Abdiel Perez for Los Santos

Christian Democrats Condemn Haitian Coup

PA2206024688 Paris AFP in Spanish 2145 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Panama City, 21 Jun (AFP)—Through a press communique the Panamanian Christian Democratic Party [PDC] condemned the coup d'etat staged in Haiti by General Henri Namphy, which ended the brief constitutional government of President Leslie Manigat.

In the communique, PDC President Ricardo Arias Calderon points to "the similarity between what occurred in Haiti and in Panama, where General Manuel Antonio Noriega has overthrown three presidents. Therefore, [the coup in Haiti] also deserves to be condemned by all Latin American countries."

"If no diplomatic and political measures are adopted regarding any coup d'etat against a civilian authority, very soon we will be facing a new wave of militarism on our continent," the PDC communique warned.

Construction Official on Sector's Losses

PA2206171888 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Jun 88 p 1

[Article by James Aparicio]

[Text] Yesterday Alberto Aleman III, president of the Panamanian Chamber of Construction (CAPAC), told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that the construction industry lost $41 million in the past 3 months as a result of the current economic crisis.

Aleman pointed out that "there have been no plans for projects on the drafting tables" since March, when bank operations were paralyzed. As a result, "under $1 million" is now being spent on projects for which construction permits were requested.

According to CAPAC, $156 million was spent on construction in 1987—approximately $11 million per month. By contrast, $267,000 was spent in March, $579,000 in April, and $800,000 in May.

Aleman explained that the industry has not shut down but is "paralyzed." He said work is resuming on projects that already had been started but were suspended 3 months ago.

As a result of a 40-day bank closure in March, some 35,000 workers were left unemployed and construction was 100-percent paralyzed, because mortgage loans were suspended.

Today CAPAC and the Panamanian Association of Engineers and Architects (SPIA) will inaugurate a convention called "The Construction Industry: The Means To Achieve Economic Reactivation." The convention will assess the industry and the country's economy.

National Bank Manager on Finance Situation

PA2206190088 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Interview with Panamanian National Bank Manager Rafael Arosemena by unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Arosemena] The bank itself faces a reasonably adequate situation. I want to stress this because, even though the bank's liquidity has decreased over a 12-month period, its current situation is positive. It can handle the public sector's requirements. The clearinghouse duties are being handled by each bank individually. In other words, the National Bank is no longer acting as a clearinghouse. Banks are now clearing each other, with debtor banks paying creditor banks. This is being done on an individual basis; the National Bank is no longer acting as a clearinghouse.

[Reporter] When was this measure implemented?

[Arosemena] On 18 April.

[Reporter] What is your assessment of the National Bank's situation since the banks reopened?

[Arosemena] I would say the only thing the National Bank has failed to do since 3 March—actually, since 4 March, when we closed the banks—has been to make payments at the tellers' windows. The bank did continue normal operations. The National Bank was the only bank cashing all the checks issued by the government and other state institutions, and it also cashed all the Social Security retirees' checks.

[Reporter] Only those checks?

[Arosemena] As long as the government has the money, the president will continue to issue these checks, and we will continue to cash them as we have done to date.

[Reporter] Many places will not cash those checks, however, because they do not trust checks issued by the National Bank.

[Arosemena] I do not think that is correct. In fact, since 7 March—that is, in the past 3 months—the National Bank has covered more than 350 million balboas in checks issued by the government.

Technical Cooperation Agreement With Colombia

PA2306005188 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] The Commerce and Industries Ministry signed a technical cooperation agreement with the Colombian Institute of Technical Standards to encourage quality improvement of Panamanian products. According to the agreement signed, Panama will reaffirm its policy of high quality products and will benefit by receiving the donation of bibliographic material, scholarships, training, and programming on computer science.

The agreement was signed on behalf of Colombia by Javier Henao Londono and Magdalena De la Portilla, and for Panama by Julio C. Urena.

Argentina

Government Issues Communique on Haitian Coup

PY2206142888 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0215 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (NA)—The Argentine Government tonight deplored the rupture of constitutional order in the Republic of Haiti in view of the coup perpetrated by the military.

Through a brief communique issued tonight, the Argentine Government "deplores the incidents that occurred in the Republic of Haiti because this implies a step backward in the implementation of a democratic system in that country."

The communique adds: "The Argentine Government also expresses its hope that the Haitian people will soon find a path that will allow them to exercise their sovereignty, strengthen the respect of human rights, and lead to economic and social development."

Foreign Minister Comments on Haiti,Other Issues

PY2206061488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1042 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has labeled the coup in Haiti as a sad and deplorable event, and hopes that the Haitian people will recover their freedom and democracy.

Caputo made this statement at the Ezeiza International Airport before leaving for Venezuela and Mexico last night.

Regarding his visit to Venezuela, Caputo said that political and economic issues will be discussed during his visit. He said: We are working on various agreements with Venezuela especially an agreement for joint action against drug trafficking.

He added that another issue will be the preparatory talks to be held by the Group of Eight in Mexico this weekend.

Caputo said the foreign ministers will prepare the agenda for the presidential summit meeting to be held in September or October of this year.

A reporter asked Caputo if, being the highest ranking Foreign Ministry public official, will it be difficult for him to represent Argentina abroad when most of the opposition criticizes Argentine foreign policy.

Caputo explained that it is not most of the opposition, but a sector that is a minority in electoral terms.

He added that other foreign ministers, such as Shultz and Andreotti, have the same problems with the opposition.

Regarding the attention paid by the recent summit of the seven countries to the foreign debt issue, Caputo said: Everything seems to indicate that it does not, repeat not, directly affect us because it is aimed at underdeveloped countries.

Anyway, he said, for the first time the highly industrialized countries are including the foreign debt issue in their political discussions. This represents progress, even if the benefits do not affect us.

Comments on Debt Talks

PY2206041688 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2350 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (NA)—Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has described as clearly positive the decision by the seven most developed nations, during their meetings in Toronto, to give political treatment to the foreign debt. Caputo said: The foreign debt "is not only serious for the very poor countries but also for Latin American countries." Caputo was thus alluding to plans announced by France and the FRG to pardon part of the debt contracted by extremely poor African countries. He made these remarks tonight at Ezeiza International Airport shortly before leaving for Caracas via Miami.

Commenting on the agenda being discussed by the heads of government of the United States, Canada, Japan, Great Britain, Italy, the FRG and France, Caputo said: "The fact that they have now agreed to address the foreign debt problem within a political context reflects a fundamental change."

Emphasizing the above decision by the developed countries, Caputo said: "They used to say apply the market rules or discuss the issue with international banks or organizations.'"

Regarding his trip to Venezuela, Caputo said he will go there to discuss topics related to the meeting the Group of Eight will hold in Mexico this weekend and "the agenda for the Group of Eight presidents' meetings to be held in Punta del Este in September or October."

Caputo added that he will discuss with his Venezuelan counterpart bilateral, political, and economic issues, "especially an agreement to take bilateral action against the drug trade."

President Signs 1988 Draft Budget Bill

PY2206190088 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN)—President Raul Alfonsin signed yesterday the 1988 budget draft legislation, which is expected to be sent to Congress before the end of this week.

The new legislation, which calls for a fiscal deficit of 3.9 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), will be entering Congress 10 months after the legal deadline set by accountability law, whereby the budget draft bill has to be submitted for its debate on September 15 each year.

However, the debate on this year's budget will see yet another delay, as all parties represented in the lower house agreed to suspend the session until July 6, due to the primary elections in the major parties.

Council Created for Cooperation With PRC

PY2206041088 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0150 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (DYN)—The Argentine Council for Cooperation with the PRC [Consejo Argentino de Cooperacion con la Republica Popular China] was created today to implement a decision made during President Raul Alfonsin's recent visit to the PRC. The council will seek to channel bilateral trade both at the private and governmental level.

The council will work with various public organizations, enterprises, the Argentine-Chinese Chamber for Production, Industry and Trade, as well as other institutions that seek to strengthen Argentine-PRC trade.

The following officials, among others, will serve on the council: Agriculture Secretary Ernesto Figueras and Under Secretary for Industrial Development Beatriz Nofal will represent the public sector; and businessmen Luis Pescarmona (IMPSA) [Metallurgic Industries], Carlos Bulgheroni (Bridas), and Francisco Macri (Sevel-)will represent the private sector.

Communist Party, MAS Fail To Form Alliance

PY2206125388 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2157 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (NA)—The negotiations between the Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) and the Communist Party (PC)—which make up the major sector of the Broad Front for Liberation (FRAL)—have virtually ended in their initial stage, following a harsh exchange of opinions through the press, which is the only method the leaders of the parties have used to communicate with each other.

This surprising political development, involving two groups that expressed in writing their "willingness to build an electoral alliance for 1989," began when MAS leader Jorge Guidobono sent a letter to the PC reporting on a party congress decision on mutual electoral interests.

The letter would not have had such significance had it not been delivered to the PC building, 1033 Entre Rios Street, "under the door."

Through the press, the PC gave a harsh answer to the MAS proposal on the presidential candidacy of MAS leader Luis Zamora, a proposal which the PC labelled "clumsy and unrealistic." The Communist position was made known by Eduardo Sigal, who released a communique to the press saying that the FRAL will first analyze the government's program and will then issue a broad call to enlarge the front.

The Communist statement was in turn harshly criticized by the MAS, which stressed that it was "surprised" at the PC statement, adding that it is a "paradox" that the PC "should criticize our proposal, because for several months now, the PC has proposed candidates and tickets in such a public manner that some of the candidates have denied their nomination."

There has been no indication given to us when negotiations will begin. While the PC seems to have been offended by the way they received the MAS letter, the MAS complained that "more than 2 weeks ago we sent an official note with a concrete proposal for creating a front," and "there has been no answer so far."

The FRAL proposed the creation of a "leftist front," including not only parties but also independent groups. This proposal was formulated at an MAS congress held in May at the Obras Sanitarias stadium in Buenos Aires.

The restructuring of ideas of the Trotskyist Socialists, led by Silvia Diaz, Nora Sciappone, and Jorge Guidobono—after the split from the faction headed by Jorge Manes—had suggested the possibility of an electoral alliance with the MAS, thus repeating the structure of the "people's front," which was presented in the 1985 general elections.

After that electoral failure, the MAS decided to campaign without alliances in 1987 on the basis of an expanded rank-and-file. In the electoral statistical data, earlier this year, the MAS appeared with a 0.5 percent rate, while other leftist groups did not show any public support.

The separation of the MAS from the internationalist Bolshevik movement considerably weakened the MAS' political potential; therefore, the MAS was prepared to join the "leftist front" and to accept its presidential candidate.

The erratic interparty relations and the apparently inflexible Communist position have brought the negotiations to a deadlock.

Company To Offer Telecommunications Services

PY2206204988 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1213 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (TELAM)—The Communications Secretariat (SECOM) has authorized the private company "Electronic Security Systems Corp" to install a

station on the sea coast to render land-to-sea and land-to-land telecommunications services. The corporation will use radio frequencies for rendering telex services in compliance with existing regulations.

According to SECOM, this authorization is consistent with the executive branch policy of introducing modern technology, which will have a multiplying effect on the economy and will promote the development of the telecommunications sector.

It has also been reported that the transfer of this type of activity to the private sector implies a more rational use of state funds and gives public utilities the chance to increase their commercial, competitive, technical and risk taking capacities.

Police Find Ammunition Cache in Cordoba
PY2206034488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1947 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Cordoba, 21 Jun (TELAM)—A box containing ammonium gelignite sticks was found on the grounds of a sports club and ammunition for antiaircraft guns was found in another part of this city. This information was disclosed by police authorities who linked the discoveries to ultra-rightist groups uncovered a few days ago.

Provincial Police Chief Jorge Marcial Gonzalez disclosed that eight sticks of ammonium gelignite in a packet and two meters of fuse were found in property belonging to Club Espanol, in the residential suburban area of Villa Warcarde, near Suquia River.

Moreover, the inhabitants of a house in Cordoba found 30-mm caliber ammunition for an antiaircraft gun with its corresponding fuse in the garden. ENTEL [National Telecommunications Enterprise] personnel found 120-mm caliber ammunition in a hole in the ground on the corner of Santa Rosa and Cafferata Streets, in Alto Alberdi neighborhood.

In the three cases, personnel of the provincial police explosives brigade took the materiel to a safe place while investigations to establish their origin are being conducted. The ammunition is being studied by police experts.

Officer Gonzalez confirmed the finding and during a chat with TELAM said the findings are a result of numerous raids being conducted by security forces in several parts of the city to fully dismantle the ultra-rightist groups discovered a few days ago.

The provincial chief of police believes that the people who owned the materiel tried to get rid of it as soon as possible in view of the aforementioned raids by abandoning it whenever they could.

Explosion at Homes of Politician, Officer
PY2206151988 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1328 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Cordoba, 22 Jun (NA)—A powerful bomb exploded early this morning at the high rise where Jose Manuel de la Sota—Peronist vice presidential precandidate—and Lieutenant Colonel Enrique Arroyo—member of the Armed Forces Permanent War Council, with jurisdiction over the Army III Corps—live.

De la Sota, who was in Buenos Aires at the time of the bomb attack, lives on the sixth floor of the building, located at 311 Montevideo Street in downtown Cordoba. Lt Col Arroyo and his family live on the third floor.

Police sources have reported that the bomb consisted of "about 1 kg of explosive material." Experts of the Explosives Brigade are in charge of investigating the attack.

The explosion took place at 0300 this morning. Provincial Police Chief Jorge Marcial Gonzalez and Federal Judge Carlos Uboldi immediately went to the site of the explosion and took the necessary steps to investigate the attack.

The bomb seriously damaged the building's main entrance, where it was placed. It destroyed part of the facade and broke several window panes. A car parked in front of the building was also seriously damaged.

The apartment building is located near the corner of Belgrano Street, 150 meters from the Archbishop's Palace, and 80 meters from the provincial headquarters of the Cordoba Radical Party. [passage omitted]

Bomb Explodes at Reporter's Home, No Casualties
PY2206160188 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1345 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] San Miguel de Tucuman, 22 Jun (NA)—A bomb exploded this morning at the door of reporter Rogelio Parolo's house causing alarm, some damage, but no casualties.

The explosion destroyed the door of the house. Reporter Parolo is the movie critic of the Channel 10 Television station. The explosion also broke windows of nearby houses.

The bomb squad of the provincial police came to the site of the explosion to determine what type of bomb was used. An investigation is being conducted to establish the reason for the attack.

Brazil

Nobrega Comments on Debt Rescheduling Accord

PY2206231888 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Brazil has reached an accord with private banks for fresh funds and a midterm rescheduling of its foreign debt. The accord provides for the rescheduling of the overdue obligations and of future obligations coming due between 1987 and 1993, over a 20-year period with an 8-year grace period.

The rescheduling will affect 94 percent of the medium and long-term debt owed to private banks, a total of $63.6 billion. Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega has said that this is the best accord that Brazil has signed in the past few years.

[Begin Nobrega recording] It is one of the more advantageous accords that Brazil has signed since the beginning of the foreign debt crisis in 1982. It is the higgest financial accord in Brazilian history, because it involves more than $80 billion of fresh funds, debt rescheduling, and short-term credits. It is one of the more advantageous accords signed by a Third World debtor country. Our accord has made use of the most advantageous terms of the accords that the other countries have signed. It is the most important step in the strategy that we have designed to normalize the relations between Brazil and the international financial community. It is a major step, also, because an obstacle that was hindering the resumption of socioeconomic development has been removed. [end recording]

Under the terms of the accord, the banks will grant Brazil financial resources amounting to $5.8 billion. The repayment period for the new loans will be 12 years with a 5-year grace period.

Chief of Staff Defines EMFA Role in Government

PY2206040688 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Jun 88 p 6

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro—The Armed Forces General Staff (EMFA) will discontinue being a political body and become an advisory body to the president and will coordinate projects involving military institutions. This will be the direction implemented by newly-appointed EMFA Minister Admiral Valbert Lisieux de Figueiredo, who made this announcement yesterday upon bidding farewell to the Navy during a ceremony held at the old naval headquarters in Rio de Janeiro. Lisieux de Figueiredo transferred the Naval Operation Command to Squadron Commander in Chief Admiral Jose do Cabo Carvalho. [passage omitted]

Adm Lisieux de Figueiredo wants the EMFA to carry out responsibilities bestowed on it by law: to be an advisory body to the president of the republic and a coordinating body for the Armed Forces.

Adm Lisieux de Figueiredo does not like issues involving elections, partisan politics, or economic policy. For the military men in Sao Paulo or Rio de Janeiro—who are acting in the so-called "operational area," where political-bureaucratic activity does not prevail—the EMFA minister must not be the Armed Forces spokesman in political or economic matters but rather a high-level advisor to the president of the republic. [passage omitted]

Constituent Assembly Vetoes 'Maharajas' Privileges

PY2206205488 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] The people of Maceio [Alagoas State] cheerfully celebrated yesterday's Constituent Assembly approval of an amendment that puts an end to the career of certain privileged public employees who have several jobs. These employees are called maharajas.

The Alagoas State administration may save millions of cruzados as a result of the reduction in the salary of several public employees. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What will this Constituent Assembly decision mean to Alagoas State?

[Governor Collor de Mello] It will represent substantial savings amounting to some 400 million cruzados a month, and it will represent, above all, the restoration of a moral justice in the nation's public service sector. [end recording]

Aeroflot Lobbys for Stopover in Rio de Janeiro

PY2206215688 Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 22 Jun 88 p 51

[Text] The Soviet airline company Aeroflot wants to make a stopover on its Moscow-Buenos Aires flights in Rio de Janeiro. The company, which already has a technical maintenance base in Recife—to be used only in emergencies—is talking with Brazilian aeronautical authorities in order to receive permission to land its Tupolev planes at Galeao Airport. The Soviet requests have been repeatedly denied. This denial is the result of the influence exercised by Varig, which fears Soviet competition on the Rio de Janeiro-Paris line.

Police Give More Data on 'Lebanese Connection'

PY2206154388 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Federal Police have found another link in the cocaine trafficking chain of activities of the Lebanese Mafia in Brazil.

Since the detention at the end of May, in London, of a Brazilian naturalized businessman, Esmail Makansy, who was born in Syria, the Federal Police have been on the alert to arrest Abel Ajal El-Gadur, head of the Lebanese connection.

Federal Police Inspector Jose Augusto Bellini has said the connection, headed by Abel, sends 100 kg of cocaine to Europe and the Middle East every month.

In March, Abel Ajal was seen in Lebanon, and in April he was seen in Rio de Janeiro.

Senator Comments on Creation of New Party

PY2206170188 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso has officially left the PMDB and joined the Historical Group which is comprised of other PMDB dissident members who will create a new party this weekend. The new party will be called People's Democratic Party (PDP). [passage omitted on previously covered material]

Senator Cardoso said many people will register in the new party before the end of the year, when the party will choose its presidential candidate.

New PMDB Leader Elected

PY2206215988 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Senator Ronan Tito of Minas Gerais State has been unanimously elected the new PMDB leader in the Senate, replacing Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso who resigned from the party.

Ronan Tito believes the PMDB should move closer to Planalto Palace thus abandoning the opposition line taken by his predecessor. [passage omitted]

Chile

Leaders Comment on No-Vote Official Position

PY2206155388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Fernando Maturana, leader of the National Renewal Party, and Erich Schnake, leader of the Socialist Party, Nunez Faction, who a few weeks ago engaged in a heated argument during a television program, agreed last night to say that the PCCh has simply made official its decision to join the no-vote campaign.

Schnake told this station that 99.9 percent of the PCCh members had indicated support for the no-vote when the PCCh board made the announcement in this regard.

Schnake added that his party hopes that the Communists will someday change their violent position and join the democratic struggle preceding the plebiscite, but this is quite unlikely.

Maturana, however, said that the PCCh has simply made its position official, because there have always been overt and covert contacts between the PCCh and the so-called Democratic Opposition.

Maturana added that the plebiscite, regardless of the outcome, will not prevent the PCCh from continuing with its attempts to seize power through violence and destruction.

Haitian Ambassador on Relations With Chile

PY2206173588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Relations between Chile and Haiti will by no means be affected by the coup d'etat in Haiti last Friday. Haitian Ambassador to Chile (Rene Louis) made this statement at the Foreign Ministry during the ceremony marking the decoration of Papal Nuncio Msgr Angelo Sodano.

The Haitian ambassador stated that democratic process must continue in Latin America, but not in the manner the United States wants to impose.

Relations With Argentina at Promising Level

PY2206215388 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia has said that Chilean-Argentine integration stands at its most promising level, adding that the people of the two countries want to promote integration and the political will to achieve this objective exists.

The minister made this statement during a Chilean-Argentine chamber of commerce meeting that was also attended by Argentine Ambassador to Chile Jose Maria Alvarez de Toledo.

Garcia said that the two nations should jointly work for commonly shared development. He stressed the significance of the peace treaty that ended the border conflict between the two countries, thus paving the way for increasingly closer ties.

For his part, Ambassador Alvarez de Toledo said he agrees with the remarks by Minister Garcia, which also reflect the situation in his own country.

Minister Comments on Utility Rates Reduction

PY2206220788 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Economy Minister Brigadier General Manuel Concha has announced that eight state-owned enterprises will cut their rates. This reduction, ranging from 2.3 to 3.3 percent, will become effective on 23 June throughout the nation.

The list of these enterprises includes ENAP [National Petroleum Enterprise], ENTEL [National Telecommunications Enterprise], EMOS [Sanitary Works Enterprise], the Chilean railroad enterprise, ENDESA [National Enterprise for Electric Power, Inc.], the Chilean telephone company, and EMPORCHI [Port Enterprise of Chile].

As an example, Minister Concha said that an average EMOS user's reduction would be 24 pesos. He urged private businessmen to recalculate their costs for consumers' benefit.

Today, the economy minister unexpectedly summoned the press to read a 2-page comunique, giving a detailed account of the utility rate reduction.

The Chilean telephone company and the ENAP will implement the reduction on 23 June when the appropriate bill is published in the official gazette. [passage omitted]

In the economy minister's opinion, the government has been responsible and realistic by reducing the Value Added Tax (VAT).

[Begin Concha recording] The VAT reduction has been made possible thanks to the serious, responsible, and realistic handling of the economic policy.

While some people are promoting a tax hike, the government is reducing taxes, thus contributing to curb inflation and increasing the purchasing power of Chileans.

The government is calling on the private sector to reflect these reductions in the prices of their products and services, thus contributing to the country's progress and development. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Regional Leader Resigns, Supports Yes-Vote

PY2206161588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Rolando Zambrano Perez, regional president of the National Party of Aisen, has resigned from his post. This was reported in the past few hours when Zambrano visited President Pinochet at La Moneda Palace to extend his support and that of the people of the 11th region to the presdient.

During the meeting with the president, Zambrano stated that as of now, he will start working for the yes-vote in the plebiscite. He added that all other members of the National Party of Aisen will do the same. In this manner, Zambrano Perez and his people rejected the positions taken by the general convention of the National Party last Saturday.

Bomb Hurled at University Rector's House

PY2206211488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Relay from La Serena by Jorge Alfaro]

[Text] Policemen and security agents are tracking down terrorists who attacked La Serena University Rector Luis Joaquin Ramirez Pineda's house. The terrorists hurled a bomb at the house. The bomb was made of 50 grams of ammonium gelignite and exploded in the garden, causing minor damage to the outside garden wall.

According to official sources, the bomb was hurled from a moving car at the house located at 1051 Las Anaditas Street, La Cisterna neigborhood. Fortunately, no one was injured. The rector was in his house when the bomb exploded. He was not injured but was understandably concerned about the attack against his life, his home, and his family.

Local police are looking intensively for the attackers.

Colombia

President Interviewed on Drugs, Human Rights

PM2106123188 Madrid ABC in Spanish 27 May 88 pp 34-35

[Interview with President Virgilio Barco by Jesus Fonseca in Bogota; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] [Fonseca] One sometimes has the impression that Colombia is experiencing a very confused political situation. What, Mr President, are the decisive factors in this crisis? What are Colombia's worst enemies?

[Barco] Colombia is fighting an all-out battle against left-wing terrorism and the drug mafia which has cost us great sacrifices. Many Colombians have been killed in the fight against drug trafficking—a justice minister, 16 judges of the Supreme Court of Justice, the director of the narcotics police, the attorney general, several judges, and the editor of one of our main newspapers, as well as political leaders of all persuasions, journalists, officials, policemen, and troops.

[Fonseca] Do you not fear the mafia gunmen's revenge?

[Barco] The fight against blackmail, violence, and impunity is a democratic commitment of my government and will remain so. This fight, which is not always understood internationally, goes on. It has caused great human and economic losses. Colombia has paid a higher price than any other country in the fight against drug trafficking. This year we have seized and destroyed more tons of cocaine than last year, and have discovered and destroyed more laboratories. We have succeeded in arresting a greater number of criminals engaged in this activity and have made important discoveries concerning the so-called cartels' organization and operation.

[Fonseca] However, you have rejected U.S. military assistance for this fight.

[Barco] That is not so. We can accept no interference or surrender of our sovereignty. Rather, it is the other way round: We need other nations— especially those where the demand occurs—to cooperate in the fight. Drug trafficking comprises a huge international network with agents in various countries who perform various roles—coca production, the manufacture of cocaine, transportation to centers of consumption, distribution to the

drug addicts, the laundering of dollars..., and it is deplorable that some countries involved in this network are tolerant of the specific forms taken by drug trafficking on their own territory.

[Fonseca] You are referring specifically to the United States.

[Barco] You said that, not I. The fact is that we have not always found the cooperation we sought, and both in this matter and in others connected with human rights people have sometimes sought to interpret the Colombian situation in terms of models and ideas which correspond to totally different situations which have arisen in other countries, at other times, and with other actors.

[Fonseca] Dr Barco, with regard to human rights in Colombia, Amnesty International has in fact denounced their violation in your country and during your term.

[Barco] I assure you that from the start of my administration in August 1986, human rights have been our foremost aim, and this is known better than anybody by the international organizations promoting the noble cause of human rights, to which we have opened our doors and given all possible cooperation, convinced that their contribution could be very valuable for achieving the goal shared by them and by the government I head of guaranteeing all rights which derive from nature itself. But let me remind you that in Colombia there are groups of rebels, and there are destabilizing interests, considerable confusion, and deplorable actions which are frequently misrepresented and skillfully manipulated for purposes contrary to the wishes of the majority of the Colombian people. To attack and claim to be attacked is one of the most frequently used tactics of certain totalitarian ideologies with which we are very well acquainted. I am very well aware that respect for life is vital to the success of the reconciliation which we are all seeking.

Spanish Aid [subhead]

[Fonseca] And Spain, Mr President, is really assisting you. Will you propose in Madrid any specific cooperation plan for the fight against drug trafficking?

[Barco] Spain assists us as much as it can, in a framework of great respect and understanding, which is sometimes very difficult. We are very confident about this visit and the talks which we will hold in search of very specific agreements to strengthen the existing agreements.

Death Squads [subhead]

[Fonseca] There is a very delicate issue, Mr President, which I must raise with you. How do you explain the fact that private justice—that is, the death squads and the paramilitary groups—can cause 100 deaths per month in Colombia?

[Barco] We are carrying out a program to normalize political life, rehabilitate areas which have been affected by violence, and reconcile all Colombians. This policy's aim is to create conditions for demobilizing the guerrillas and binding the rebels to legality. But since I seem to detect something more in your question, I will reply to you categorically that the government is not encouraging the setting up of armed self-defense groups, nor do we have any intention of doing so, and if the Army uncovers any of them, it has acted and will continue to act with the utmost severity. I assure you that it is not exactly easy, but the Colombian population rejects violence as a method of political struggle and has proved this on many occasions. In the recent election held 13 March, in which we elected mayors by universal suffrage for the first time, the turnout was the highest in the country's entire history, and the election was characterized by exemplary conduct on the part of the whole public and by complete calm.

[Fonseca] Why, if you are fighting organized crime as hard as you claim, do criminal operations and the drug traffickers' corrupt power remain unstoppable?

[Barco] It is not true that their operations remain unstoppable. Our fight is constant and unrelenting, and although not always understood internationally, it goes on. This fight has already caused considerable human and economic losses, and I can assure you that we are responding daily in city and countryside to the declaration of war made on the country by the drug traffickers, in alliance with forces of armed subversion, with a great national campaign in defense of our values—the Colombian people's noble values —and the dignity of human life. And we are frequently doing so alone and without the support we lack so much. [Passage omitted]

M-19 Leader Explains Gomez Hurtado's Kidnapping

PA2306014588 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0009 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Report on interview with M-19 leader Otty Patino by journalist German Castro Caicedo; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] In an extensive interview with Otty Patino, second in command of the M-19, he told me that the kidnapping of Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado does not call for any type of negotiations; that is, there will not be any negotiation. Second [as heard], the M-19 will not accept mediators. Instead, they are asking for interlocutors. Third, they say the life of Dr Gomez is subject to the life of the Colombian people. Let us go step by step.

To release him, they demand or propose a new peace process based on a completely different type of plan [diseno] from those used in the past. They admit that in previous peace talks, not only had the system used failed, but those who participated in them failed as well, and that no one should be blamed for this.

As a condition to release Gomez Hurtado, they want government leaders [la clase dirigente] to promote a great national dialogue using different guidelines. Third [as heard], there should be no mediators, because they would always take sides; however they will ask for many interlocutors.

Once the Colombian Government leaders begin to promote the dialogue and the new peace process—forgetting about the past—only then, when concrete things have been achieved, will Alvaro Gomez Hurtado will be released. His release will depend on the quickness with which the country's leaders begin working.

I told Patino that talks with political parties, with some labor unions, and with the UP [Patriotic Union] were already taking place. He replied: We exclude this dialogue because it is a dialogue for war. We are requesting a wide-open dialogue, and we want Dr Alvaro Gomez alive, because he is a very educated man and a necessary man for the construction of democracy.

I want to explain that I attended this professional meeting with the M-19 because they told me they would give me something that would clarify the kidnapping and would shorten the length of time in which Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado would be held in captivity. To shorten Dr Alvaro Gomez' captivity, I accepted this professional meeting.

Police Discover M-19 Radio Station

PA2206184888 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1750 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] During a raid this morning on a house in the Pan-American neighborhood, the Cali Metropolitan Police found an M-19 radio station used to interfere with television broadcasts in that area of the country. A clandestine printing press was also found. Two individuals were arrested.

Military Arrests 67 Rebel Group Members

PA2206134488 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] The Military Police and the 4th Army Brigade have foiled a huge terrorist plot the EPL [Popular Liberation Army] and the ELN [Army of National Liberation] planned to jointly carry out in Medellin. In operations against subversion, military authorities arrested 67 members of those rebel groups from 3 to 20 June. These persons were arrested during the Crisol operation, which began in February in various parts of the city.

[Begin recording of unidentified officer] The troops discovered different documents. Based on the content, we have established that these subversive groups were going to dynamite the Medellin-Rio Negro oil pipeline, Uniban [Uraba Banana Growers Union], Banacol [expansion unknown], the EL COLOMBIANO newspaper, the IDEASE [expansion unknown] steel factory, the Atempi company, Medellin University, the [name indistinct] jail, ELSA [expansion unknown], the El Poblado village synagogue, and the Metropolitan Police's Immediate Care Center, CAI. [end recording]

In addition, these groups planned incursions into other districts and municipalities of Antioquia Department and attacks on news media such as the EL TIEMPO, EL ESPECTADOR, and EL MUNDO newspapers before the Colombian bicycle race. Seized during the raids were weapons of various calibers, wigs, ammunition, dynamite, communications equipment, private security companies' uniforms, canvas tents, five vehicles, guerrilla instruction handbooks, terrorist plans, identity papers for 54 persons, and Marxist literature.

Cargo Terminal Planned To Control Smuggling

PA2306004988 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Proexpo [Export Promotion Fund] will finance the construction of a new air cargo terminal for perishable products only, and Civil Aeronautics will increase surveillance to keep cocaine from being smuggled to the United States in flower cases. Here are further details by Luis Arturo Paez:

[Begin recording] The decision was adopted after a meeting at the Foreign Ministry, which was attended by all sides interested in finding a solution to the constant smuggling of drugs in flowers. It was agreed that the cargo terminal, from which flowers and perishable goods will be exported to the United States, will be built on land near Eldorado International Airport. Work on the terminal will begin in a few weeks.

The new cargo terminal will be built with funds from exporters and users. The meeting also discussed the possibility of placing the current cargo terminal at the airport under military control. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Troops, FARC, M-19 Continue Fighting

PA2206170288 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0037 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Bogota, 21 Jun (REUTER)—[Passage omitted] It was reported today that 3d Infantry Brigade troops, FARC, and M-19 guerrillas continued their 3d consecutive day of clashes in the rural area of Cauca Department in southern Colombia.

The fighting in Sotara and Purace left seven guerrillas and one soldier dead. A helicopter gunship was forced to land when guerrillas shot at it while it was taking a doctor to the combat area. The Defense Ministry's Press Office said the doctor was slightly injured and the helicopter only slightly damaged. Five military men aboard the helicopter were uninjured.

Bodies were found in a mass grave in San Rafael, 120 km from the Antioquia Department capital in the northeastern part of the country. According to Mayor Clemente Giraldo, they could be the 13 miners kidnapped 12 days ago by unidentified men. The bodies, showing signs of torture, were found by peasants. According to Giraldo, it will not be known until tomorrow if they are the missing miners.

The men had been working in a gold mine when gunmen stormed the area, called off 13 names from a list, and took those miners to a wooded area. The missing men have not been seen since.

Rainy Season Causes Floods, 2000 Evacuated

PA2206182988 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Over 2,000 people had to be evacuated in the eastern plains because of the worsening rainy season. Food, tents, and medicine have been sent to help the victims in the Guaviare region.

The area that has been most heavily affected by the floods is the northern part of the Guaviare area, bordering Meta Department. In this area, the heavy rains of the last few days have caused large sections of the Guayabero and Guaviare Rivers to swell. Approximately 2,000 people have been evacuated to higher ground or to San Jose, the capital of Guaviare, where the evacuees have been sheltered in a school. The most heavily flooded towns are Puerto Arturo, Raudal, (Puerto Caucho), Playa Alta, Puerto Nuevo, and El Vergel.

In view of the emergency, 2,000 boxes of medicine, food, and tents will be sent to the area in the next few hours. In addition, teams from the Meta Department Red Cross and Civil Defense offices are in the area tending to the most serious cases.

No victims have been reported so far, but losses amount to 300 million pesos, and roads are completely blocked.

Peru

Army Patrol Clashes With Subversives in La Mar

PY2206142388 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] The Political Military Command of the National Security Sub-Zone No 5 has announced that seven subversives were killed and two soldiers were wounded during a clash between an Army patrol and terrorists.

The report indicates that the clash occurred in the Tambo District, La Mar Province, on 19 June, and that arms, explosives, and subversive propaganda were seized. The office of the military prosecutor was informed of this event.

Uruguay

Incident Involving Cuban Envoy 'Resolved'

PY2206183988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0322 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Montevideo, 21 Jun (EFE)—Uruguay and Cuba said today that the incident involving Cuban Ambassador Joaquin Mas Martinez and Uruguayan Defense Minister General Hugo Medina has been resolved.

The problem was resolved after 2 days of meetings between Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano and Cuba Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon.

In a news conference held today after the meetings, Barrios Tassano and Alarcon said that "despite the incident," bilateral relations "are not affected."

Barrios Tassano said that long talks were held, and that they have "confirmed the spirit that prevails in Cuba and Uruguay, and that despite minor incidents that can frequently occur," there is "a clear determination to continue strengthening and improving mutual relations."

Barrios Tassano also said that Alarcon's official visit concluded with an evaluation "of the international situation."

Barrios Tassano never mentioned the name of the Cuban ambassador, Joaquin Mas Martinez, who was involved in an incident on 9 June, when he criticized Uruguayan foreign policy in front of Uruguayan Defense Minister Gen Hugo Medina during a reception at the British Embassy.

Mas Martinez left for Havana on 13 June, recalled by his government, after Uruguay submitted a protest "for the attitude of the Cuban ambassador" that according to the Uruguayan Government, "violated diplomatic rules."

Alarcon did not comment on his government's attitude regarding its ambassador, but stated that measures will be taken "to contribute to more cordial and respectful relations," which "are are necessary to strengthen bilateral links."

According to the Montevideo press, the incident between the Cuban ambassador and Minister Medina "was the straw that broke the camel's back," after many actions by Ambassador Mas Martinez that "annoyed Uruguayan officials."

Mas Martinez was the first Cuban ambassador accredited by Cuba in Uruguay after the resumption of relations on 17 October 1985.

Cuba and Uruguay broke relations on 8 September 1964, when the Uruguayan Government accepted the OAS recommendation to isolate the Fidel Castro regime.

Venezuela

Lusinchi on Haitian Coup; Calls for Action

PA2206172188 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Report on statement by President Jaime Lusinchi; date and place not given]

[Text] On behalf of the Venezuelan people, President Jaime Lusinchi has rejected foreign meddling in Haiti and said that the coup against Haitian President Leslie Manigat is nothing less than an abuse committed against the Haitian people.

The head of state added that this action is incompatible with the constitutional mandate. He reiterated that Venezuela's doors are open to President Manigat and referred to the decisions Venezuela has reached with regard to developments in Haiti.

[Begin Lusinchi recording] We are withdrawing as of today the officers and soldiers who are in Haiti. They have been there helping to construct housing and public buildings and providing other assistance to that country, which requires international assistance. I do not want to elaborate on the matter because, as you know, these are touchy subjects. Our Foreign Ministry has been consulting with various governments on the continent to devise ways to perfect what should be a collective action in this case. [end recording]